

THE AUSTIN

CHRONICLE

VOTE! 2010-2011
Music Poll Ballot
p.79

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Circus of Pain

The Lege
Returns Ready
To Slash and
Burn p.18

Killer Boogie p.42

Drinking Closer to Jessica Anya Blau p.30

Press Forward: The Printmaking Evolution p.26

Sangre Blu! Jodorowsky Onscreen and on Disc p.38

bill 'em all - let GOP sort it out

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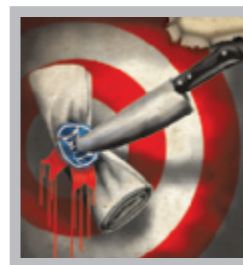


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COVER ILLUSTRATION BY
JASON STOUT

4 PAGE TWO BY LOUIS BLACK 6 POSTMARKS

news

10 Holly Won't Go Lightly; Will Texas Be Safe for Romeos and Juliets?; and More

POINT AUSTIN

BY MICHAEL KING

12 CITY HALL HUSTLE

BY WELLS DUNBAR

18 THIS WAY TO THE BIG TOP!
From budget disaster to hysterical bloodletting, the Lege circus is back in town

23 THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

arts

25 Wura-Natasha Ogunji's 'Epic Crossings'; and Funding Wishes Granted

26 PRESS FORWARD Two exhibitions capture printmaking's experimental drive

BY ROBERT FAIRES

30 SAD BUT TRUE (WELL, MOSTLY) Tapping real-life family crises for comedy in *Drinking Closer to Home*

BY MARION WINIK

31 AFTER A FASHION
BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

food

33 Papalote Taco House; Wine of the Week; Event Menu: Jan. 15-30; and Food-o-File

34 RESTAURANT REVIEWS *Vino Vino*; Cherrywood Coffeehouse

35 RESTAURANT ROULETTE

screens

36 TV EYE

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

37 *Tiny Furniture*; DVD Watch: Sam Fuller Films; and Film Flam

38 BLOODY BEAUTIFUL ILLUSIONS
Alejandro Jodorowsky, surrealism's *topo sangre*, on Truth, Beauty, and the Internet

BY MARC SAVLOV

music

40 OFF THE RECORD Free Week wrap-up

BY AUSTIN POWELL

42 CHURCH OF MISERY Japanese super boogie band cloaks its life force in serial killers

BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ

46 LIVE SHOTS Free Week

45 NEWS OF THE WEIRD

calendar

47 SPORTS

UT MEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Sooners and Aggies

SOCCER WATCH

BY NICK BARBARO

FOOTBALL WATCH

BY MARK FAGAN

48 COMMUNITY

Here's a bright weekend celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King

50 DAY TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

52 ARTS

Reviewed: *Humble Boy* (Theatre); *Austin Secrets* (Comedy); 'Angle Renfro: Industry!' (Visual Arts)

56 FILM

Film Reviews: *Rabbit Hole*, *The Green Hornet*, *Blue Valentine*, *The Dilemma*, *Country Strong*, *Season of the Witch*

58 SHOWTIMES

64 SPECIAL SCREENINGS

66 MUSIC

RECOMMENDED Shearwater's Jonathan Meiburg wraps the band's Island Arc, plus a Pure Texas Band reunion, Yellow Bike Project benefit, Kool Keith & Big Freedia, Al Jarreau, Girl Talk, and more

68 VENUES

70 ROADSHOWS + CLUB LISTINGS

back

83 EASY STREET
THE LUV DOC

84 COMIX
MR. SMARTY PANTS

85 LOVERS LANE

86 CLASSIFIEDS

91 FREE WILL
ASTROLOGY

92 THE COMMON LAW

94 CAR TALK

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CHRONOLOG

BLOGS
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Quotation Nation

Taking issue with citations

BY LOUIS BLACK

“I hate quotation. Tell me what you know.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

As anyone who has ever read this column knows, I don’t hate quotations, not at all. There is, however, a number of ways that quotations can be used. Often I feel that they far more eloquently express a point that I’m trying to make or lend more resonance and a richer meaning. Sometimes it just seems like happy, almost coincidental poetry. Many times the distance between how an idea is expressed in a quotation from another source and how it appears in my writing creates an openness about the idea or provides another way of looking at it.

“Well everything dies baby that’s a fact

But maybe everything that dies someday comes back

Put your makeup on fix your hair up pretty

And meet me tonight in Atlantic City”

– Bruce Springsteen, “Atlantic City”

Not infrequently, writers (including letter-writers and forum posters) use quotations as a way to establish an opinion as a fact and to lend authority to the writer and credence to an idea – and those quotations are usually from some well-known person who agrees with whatever point that writer is making. In the same way, some will cite historical records, books, and websites to validate an opinion being expressed.

In the rich, ever-expanding, and more-accessible world of documents and sources, one can almost always find a backing statement supporting an already personally arrived-at point of view.

Still, given the vast extent of philosophical, historical, sociological, ideological, and scientific literature available almost everywhere, it is rare to find the single agreed-upon point. In almost every case, there are different takes; there might be a generally accepted point of view, but there is almost always a range of oppositional positions staked out. Even if one wants to argue that the most broadly accepted point of view represents the near-official, academy take, there are constant and ongoing appearances of revisionist takes, followed by other revisionist takes. In this flow, there are defenses of whatever the orthodoxy under question is and criticism of the revisionist takes.

This is true pretty much across the board.

There are areas of study – say, philosophy – that are based almost solely on human reasoning and thus obviously totally open to differing arguments.

Even such areas as history, anthropology, and sociology – in which there are quantitative studies, artifacts, and established histories – do not house a large body of information regarded by all as accepted truth.

There are some who will accept the above but argue that science is really objective description not informed by opinion and thus incapable of undergoing revisionist reassessments. According to the dictionary, science is “an area of knowledge that is an object of study” and “knowledge covering general truths or the operation of general laws especially as obtained and tested through scientific method.” The problem with these definitions is that in science, as in medicine and mathematics, there are any number of controversies and disagreements across the whole range of study.

People will cite expert opinion or opinions as though the word “opinion,” when coupled with “expert,” means fact. Yet there are almost always other experts who disagree, holding very different opinions on the same topics.

“Everything flows. ... You cannot step twice into the same river.”

– Heraclitus

In the debate over global warming, there seems to be certainty on all sides. We are assured by the every-one-is-evil-and-everything-is-a-conspiracy folks that only corrupt scientists argue for it. The larger, less specifically ideologically dominated opinion that “most scientists believe it is happening” also misses the point. Whereas there may be areas of common agreement, the world of intellectual opinions almost always follows a bell curve. Rarely, if ever, does a large group of experts agree on every aspect of a controversial topic. Instead, there is usually not only a range of views offered but disagreements about the steps, thoughts, and observations that lead to or support even the generally accepted views.

It is always sweet when one self-anointed expert or another agrees that there is some kind of nearly unanimous agreement on topics wrapped up in discussion or debate. Almost inevitably, this citing of harmonic consistency is barely if at all researched but is based on what the speakers believe they know to be true. They can’t imagine disagreement.

“No one can see their reflection in running water.

It is only in still water that we can see.”

– Taoist proverb

At times quotations are offered as though simply saying them lends complete authority to the speaker. If one argues that it is important to “speak truth to power,” for instance, it doesn’t inherently mean that what is being spoken is either true or necessarily a critique or contradiction of dominant ideology. It seems that, more often than not, when a writer urges others to have an “open mind,” what he or she is really saying is “stop thinking the way you do and agree with me.”

During anti-establishment and/or anti-war movements, one of my favorite chants has long been, “The people united will never be defeated.” There is a lovely progressive humanism to that quotation.

Unfortunately, the contradictions inherent in that chant illustrate nicely one of the great conceptual failures of political movements.

The chant indicates a unity that crosses color, economic, religious, social, and geographical boundaries. Still, one can’t help but feel certain that those chanting it, whatever movement they represented, figured that their vision of what the people wanted was the one that would be shared by the people united. The problem is that there is often an enormous disconnect between what the people united want and what their cheerleaders want.

I suspect that the latter are demanding economic, social, and political justice, although never as an abstract or cut to suit anyone’s sense of those things but their own. Whereas the people can become focused on these as well, in the long run it seems likely that they are more interested in access to a Walmart, being able to afford McDonald’s, and a wide-screen TV.

In my late teens, I began reading the works of Ayn Rand and was swept up and carried forward by her ideas. Later, I felt that rather than offering profound philosophical truths, her work was actually a buffet of interesting, powerful, lightweight, and trivial ideas. Rand’s insistence on a shared ideology and aesthetic contradicted the ideas of personal responsibility for one’s actions and ideas that still resonate.

But in my experience, no one has ever written on money, especially paper money, better than Rand. There is so much hero-parade-down-Fifth-Avenue confetti raining down on any discussion of money that what it really represents gets lost in aggressive ideologies, emotional distortions, and personal flaws that lead to its malevolent misuse. I bring it up here not because Rand’s saying it makes it true. Nor do I have a militant ideological allegiance to her ideas overall. I disagree with her far more than I agree, and there are large areas of her philosophy that are no longer even of interest to me. But when she writes about what money can mean in the abstract, not only is she eloquent, but she presents a point of view that is too widely dismissed without thought.

Three separate quotes from Rand:

“So you think that money is the root of all evil? ... Money is a tool of exchange, which can’t exist unless there are goods produced and men able to produce them. Money is the material shape of the principle that men who wish to deal with one another must deal ...”

“Money is your means of survival. The verdict you pronounce upon the source of your livelihood is the verdict you pronounce upon your life. If the source is corrupt, you have damned your own existence. Did you get your money by fraud? By pandering to men’s vices or men’s stupidity? By catering to fools, in the hope of getting more than your ability deserves? By lowering your standards? By doing work you despise for purchasers you scorn? If so, then your money will not give you a moment’s or a penny’s worth of joy. Then all the things you buy will become, not a tribute to you, but a reproach; not an achievement, but a reminder of shame. Then you’ll scream that money is evil. Evil, because it would not pinch-hit for your self-respect? Evil, because it would not let you enjoy your depravity? Is this the root of your hatred of money?”

“But money is only a tool. It will take you wherever you wish, but it will not replace you as the driver.”

Coda

“Now here’s what this story’s told
If you feel like Mudd you’ll end up Gold
If you feel like lost, you’ll end up found
So amigo, lay them raises down”

– Townes Van Zandt, “Mr. Mudd and Mr. Gold”

“It’s true that all the men you knew were dealers
who said they were through with dealing
Every time you gave them shelter
I know that kind of man
It’s hard to hold the hand of anyone
who is reaching for the sky just to surrender,
And then sweeping up the jokers that he left behind
you find he did not leave you very much
not even laughter
Like any dealer he was watching for the card
that is so high and wild
he’ll never need to deal another”

– Leonard Cohen, “The Stranger Song” ■

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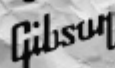
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The Chronicle's Raoul Hernandez joins
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IN SUPPORT OF EASTSIDE DISC GOLF COURSE

Dear Editor,

Re: "Against Eastside Disc Golf Course" ["Postmarks," Jan. 7]: Anita Quintanilla, I think you are misinformed as to the impact of disc golf courses. To claim that a proposed disc golf course in your community will be disturbing birds, damaging trees/plants, and an eyesore is most definitely "petty" (as you hinted it may be) and unvalidated. I won't even touch her claim of representing all Eastsiders on the issue, but I do live on the Eastside and could not disagree with her more. The matter of principle she claims to stand on does not hold up on an environmental basis or a community development one. Contrary to recent hot-air remarks, disc golf courses do not cause an adverse impact to the environment nor do they represent an activity that would be a negative aspect of a community. Anita, recognize you are complaining about a *park* being put in because you claim it will not save the land for future generations. Would you rather it be developed as is, which is zoned for commercial development?

Added nugget: A number of disc golf courses already exist in East Austin; birds, trees, plants, and Anita withstanding.

Colin Barth

APPRECIATE BELINDA ACOSTA'S 'TV EYE'

Dear Editor,

I appreciate Belinda Acosta's informative "TV Eye" columns on the ups and downs of TV programming. I trust Ms. Acosta's insight to allow me to cut through the bullshit and monotony of much of



what TV has to offer in favor of the more compelling shows. I also applaud Ms. Acosta's wish for the new year in "TV Eye" on December 31, 2010, where she calls cable television subscriptions out for being overpriced, outdated, and being saturated with annoyingly terrible commercials. On the point of being overpriced, it's one thing to have to pay 50, 60, or 70 dollars for a service with little or no commercials, but to pay the same amount for a service that spends 20 minutes of every hour trying to sell you stuff that you don't want or need is a sham and an outrage. Either make cable cheap (like \$10 a month) or make it expensive (like it already is) and cut out 80% of the commercials. I encourage and support the movement to cancel cable service in favor of getting other services with little or no commercials like Netflix and/or just a plain old Internet connection. It's time to break the corporate cable stranglehold on TV programming. Thanks for taking the lead on this in such a public way.

Best,
Dan Monahan
Laredo

'POWER TO THE INDIVIDUAL'

Dear Editor,

Re: "The [basic] unit of civilization is not the individual but the family, so the equalization of men and women is changing civilization at its [very] root." From "Letters at 3am" [Dec. 31, 2010].

For that to be true, all actions in a civilization would be modeled as the interactions of families and groups of families. I can't tell you how many ways that is problematic and just not the case.

The mindset that seems to have inspired the article bugs me. I think it is a function of how history is taught these days. If one accepts that our culture and political system are a function of impersonal forces, not the machination of individuals and groups of individuals for specific ends, you have accepted your impotence as a citizen. You will be free to sway with the winds of fashion, not grounded in reality and principle. As such, your effectiveness in participating in the public sphere is severely limited.

If however you see past events in terms of the actions of individuals and groups of same, you are armed to apprehend real causes and generate opposition to those causes with which you do not agree. Without that concreteness, your actions are unfocused and ineffective. It is the difference between the effect of a spectator and that of a participant. The spectator state for the general public is desirable for those who wish to retain the status quo and therefore is what is promoted in public and other state-accredited schools.

World consolidation of cultures or governments is not inevitable or even desirable. Ultimately, the world is a function of individuals and their voluntary

interactions. I think it is selling one's self short to characterize it in imprecise collectivist terms. If you think in those terms, you have volunteered away your freedom.

Power to the individual.

Brian Jurek

HOLD UP ON 'INCITING VIOLENCE' LEGISLATION

Dear Editor,

In regards to the horrible tragedy in Arizona and subsequent calls from pundits and politicians for Congress to expedite "inciting violence" legislation: Time to step back here and perhaps revisit the sedition acts passed during World War I. A very slippery slope, indeed, to react to murder or terrorism by passing hasty laws limiting speech. The deranged kid possessed literature all over the extreme political map. We may never know who was doing the inciting, but here's a scenario: Say an administration, current or future, has gone ahead with military action in Iran, and peace activists are arrested on the Texas Capitol grounds because, under a new law, they are "inciting violence against government officials" by carrying signs crossing out the face of Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, whose congressional subcommittee is leading the charge for

CONTINUED ON P.8

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LAST WEEK'S VINTAGE AD!

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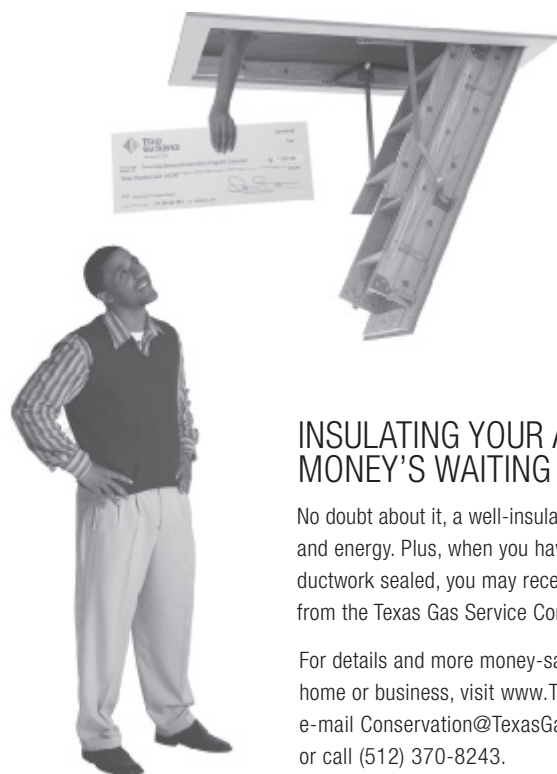
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CREATE TOMORROW

Predator drones over Tehran, Iran. Hypothetically far-fetched? Maybe, but let's think this one over.

Mike Rieman

CAN AUSTIN WITHSTAND MULTIYEAR DROUGHT?

Dear Editor,

When my brother and I grew up in the '50s during the drought, one of the things that our teachers tried to impress on us in school was that Austin sits on the edge of desert, and sometimes it gets dry. At that time Austin was not even one-tenth the size it is today and the Lower Colorado River Authority had no real water demands to meet other than that of a few small towns along the banks of the Colorado River and of some downstream rice farmers.

I have addressed one question to the City Council and city planning department. With the size of the city today and its growth policy to attract added business to the city, can the city today withstand a multiyear drought that compares to that of the drought of the 1950s?

You may recall that in 2009 the Highlands Lakes was drawn down to the 40% level and that the only water program that the city seems to have is that of water restrictions. Every time I put the above question to the city they pretended I never asked the question. A thinking person should realize that a water plan of restrictions will not add a drop to the water supply. I think that unless there is some plan to obtain additional water, it strikes me as insane to encourage added growth to the city and Highland Lakes dependent area if the area cannot meet high population water demands under extreme conditions that had visited us in the past.

In that I assume that *The Austin Chronicle* is up to date on such issues, can you tell me if the city is able survive a protracted 1950s multiyear drought today without becoming a ghost town? When the Texas Water Development Board or the LCRA tells us that they have enough water to meet our demands for 100 or 60 years with restrictions, do they give us these projections from a hoped-for average yearly rainfall?

Thank you for your time,
Frank Berezovych

REPUBLICANS WRONG ON HEALTH CARE

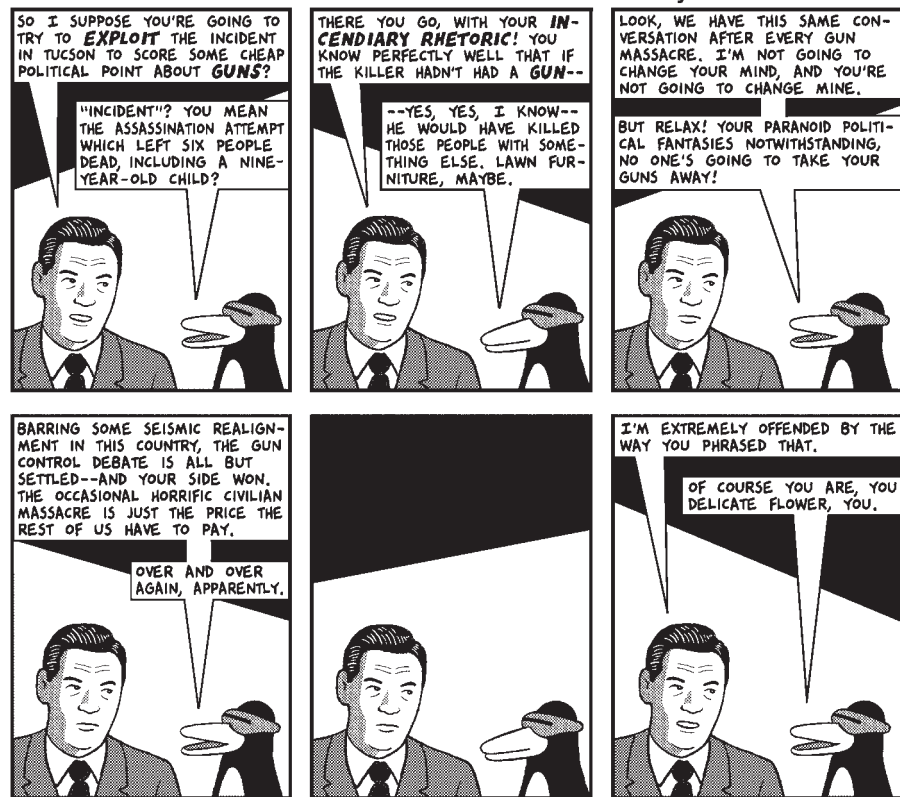
Dear Editor

The present Republican posturing has enormous implications in opportunity costs (a posturing that uses precious legislative time and energy in declaring Barack Obama's health care legislation unconstitutional and undoing the enormous work for health care coverage of Americans) and has profound import. The health care legislation has been estimated to cut the federal deficit by \$1.3 trillion over the next 20 years according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and will cover 95% of all Americans. Secondly, health insurance companies collaborated on this legislation and thus the public option was deleted ... this should be reconsidered if the Republicans wish to create a constructive mandate that is cost saving and responds to the crisis in health care coverage. Now John Boehner needs to show his worth if the symbol of the Republican Party survives into perpetuity or whether the voting public decides that the Hydra-like head of the party (whether tea party, Libertarian, Republican mainstream) needs to be replaced by a functional political entity that is in touch with reality.

Donna Carrillo Lopez

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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news

Headlines

- City Council convenes today, Jan. 13, for its first meeting of 2011. Demolishing the **Holly Street Power Plant** and zoning matters, such as the **Park Planned Unit Development**, are expected to dominate. For an expanded preview of the council agenda, see "The Daily Hustle: 1/11/11" at austinchronicle.com/hustle.
- The **Austin Independent School District** could close as many as nine schools – eight elementaries and the beleaguered Pearce Middle School – to help fill its budget gap. Mayor **Lee Leffingwell** released a statement Wednesday saying that, as the city attempts to reduce sprawl and "facilitate sustainable growth," the closure of "successful central city schools clearly runs counter to our community's long-term planning goals." See "Res Publica," p.12, for details on a forum today (Jan. 13).
- Campaign update: This week, **Laura Morrison** drew an opponent in her Place 4 re-election race, political newcomer **Eric Rangel**. In potentially bigger news, ChangeAustin co-founder and fiscal conservative **Brian Rodgers** announced he was "mulling" a run against Place 3 incumbent **Randi Shade**, telling the Austin Bulldog, "The cost of living is killing us. ... I think Randi Shade is tone-deaf to what regular citizens are facing."
- A Jan. 12 memo from **Solid Waste Services** director Bob Gedert, tasked with estimating the expense of recycling **plastic bags**, pegs citywide curbside collection at \$1.8 million. With that cost beyond their budget, Gedert writes, "Staff is currently researching how other cities are handling plastic bags, including ... plastic bag reduction campaigns, distribution phase-out programs, and product bans." Another additional report is due this summer.
- At press time, **Hiram Kirkland**, a supervisor who says he was fired from the city of Austin's **Fleet Services** after complaining about wrongdoing in the department, was scheduled to have the dismissal of his whistleblower lawsuit heard by the Third Court of Appeals. For more, see "Former Fleet Services Manager Says Scrap Tires Only a Symptom," Aug. 6, 2010.
- A former Travis County executive is suing her ex-employer, claiming that her 2009 termination was rooted in gender discrimination and retaliation; county officials fired 14-year executive manager **Alicia Perez** and longtime human resources director **Linda Moore Smith** after mediation failed to resolve their strained working relations.
- Travis County commissioners voted to solicit proposals from outside consultants for a \$140,000 study of EMS response times and staffing levels outside city limits; they approved the item over the objections of **emergency medical service** workers, who attended Tuesday's meeting.
- With a pending budget shortfall forecast to reach \$27 billion, Gov. **Rick Perry** chose the opening day of the Legislature to announce his priority issues for lawmakers to tackle: **sanctuary cities** and **eminent domain** reform. See "This Way to the Big Top!," p.18, for more on the real concerns facing lawmakers this session.
- Rep. **Todd Hunter**, R-Corpus Christi, will chair a nine-member House committee that will hear the election challenge filed by **Dan Neil** against his 12-vote loss to Rep. **Donna Howard**, D-Austin. Neil's campaign had until Jan. 11 to cite the specific ballots he is contesting.
- Texas Attorney General **Greg Abbott**'s attempts to block a **gay couple's divorce** failed last week when the Third Court of Appeals ruled the state was not a party of record in the case. While the ruling made one unhappily married couple happy, it may not apply more broadly to other same-sex uncouplings.



Austin state Rep. Dawnna Dukes' 3½-year-old daughter, Leila, raises her right hand with her mother as representatives take the oath of office on Tuesday's opening day of the new legislative session. For more coverage, see "Let the Show Begin," p.17, and "This Way to the Big Top!," p.18.

Pride Brought Low

Remorseless as ever, Tom DeLay finally encounters a little bit of justice

BY MICHAEL KING

In his inimitable fashion, Tom DeLay confessed. "I am passionate, and very arrogant, and I am guilty of that," he told Judge Pat Priest at his sentencing hearing Monday afternoon. "I believe in what I believe in, and I have fought for my conservative values." That was as much as the disgraced and convicted former U.S. House majority leader would offer the court by way of remorse, and his declaration served at least to confirm what Assistant District Attorney Steve Brand had said earlier – that DeLay had shown "no remorse whatsoever," and indeed, "The man, according to him, does nothing wrong."

Moreover, according to DeLay, his entire prosecution was a partisan plot visited upon him by a shadowy conspiracy of Democrats, beginning in 1995 when he became majority leader. Nancy Pelosi and Patrick Kennedy, DeLay told the court, "announced that they were going to take me down." It's understandable that DeLay would dispute his prosecution, but his allocution suggested that Monday's proceedings were just the latest stage in a vague but targeted plot that led directly from D.C. to this Travis County courtroom. "This district

attorney, Ronnie Earle, was approached by somebody," he charged vaguely, although Earle is long gone, and the notion that this local prosecution under Texas law had been somehow orchestrated from Washington – beginning more than a decade ago – was nothing short of bizarre.

In any case, DeLay insisted, he had done nothing more than what "everybody else" in politics was doing, so he couldn't possibly be guilty of anything.

"I can't be remorseful," he told the judge, "for something I don't think I did."

Judge Priest (for the record, a retired San Antonio Democrat appointed to this task by Republican Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson) wasn't buying it. The judge noted that the Republican National Committee's Terry Nelson had testified that he had never before seen the kind of money switch DeLay had orchestrated – to a state where corporate campaign contributions were banned – and Priest added that if he hadn't agreed with the jury's verdict, he would have directed a not-guilty one.

point
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QUOTE of the WEEK



"Before there were Republicans and Democrats, there was America, and what America is about is the rule of law."

– Judge Pat Priest, prior to sentencing former U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay to prison for money laundering and conspiracy

CONTINUED ON P.13

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Naked City

► **MOBILITY BOND GETS THUMBS-UP** For what it's worth, somebody outside Austin likes our new approach to transportation. New York City-based **Drum Major Institute**, a progressive think tank (www.drummajorinstitute.org), recently released a list of what it considered the five best and five worst city policies enacted in 2010, and the **transportation/mobility bonds** Austin voters passed in November made the good list. The organization liked that the bond package paid more than lip service to transportation modes other than the automobile. "Recognizing that they could never build enough highways to eliminate traffic congestion, lawmakers instead put a \$90 million bond issue on the ballot to improve Austin's existing streets and make them more hospitable to pedestrians and bicycles. ... For affirming that transportation investments must include more than just new highway miles, Austin's bond walks straight onto our list of the best policies of 2010," the DMI wrote. — *Lee Nichols*

► **MORE SERVICES FOR DEAF COMMUNITY** Officials from **Gallaudet University** were in town Jan. 12 for the opening of a new resource center for deaf students at **Austin Community College**. The center is one of a handful of regional centers for Gallaudet, the nation's premier institution for educating the deaf. Austin is a magnet city for deaf people and their families, in part because of the reputation of the **Texas School for the Deaf**. According to local officials, Austin's deaf and hard-of-hearing population hovers around 50,000 people. Given the community's prevalence, the Austin Police Department has developed policies for dealing with deaf residents; despite these policies, however, there have been reports of miscommunication and other problems between the deaf and law enforcement. For more, see "Tone Deaf," Dec. 3, 2010. — *Jordan Smith*

► **A NEW LOOK AT FLUORIDE** On Jan. 7, the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** announced a proposal to lower the recommended level of fluoride added to municipal drinking water — setting the cap at 0.7 milligrams per liter of water, down from the currently approved range of 0.7 to 1.2 milligrams. (The amount currently added to Austin city water is lower than the newly proposed cap.) Simultaneously, the **Environmental Protection Agency** announced it would initiate a broader review of the maximum amount allowable in drinking water. Fluoride has been subject to much public controversy in recent years with scientific research suggesting that claims of its effectiveness in preventing tooth decay are exaggerated and that potential health risks outweigh benefits (see "Fluoridation Under the Microscope," Nov. 12, 2010). The joint HHS/EPA announcement reiterated claims that fluoridation prevents tooth decay but said that in recent years the multiplication of other sources (toothpaste, mouth rinses, and food processing) may have contributed to increases in dental fluorosis (tooth discoloration) in children. "EPA's new analysis will help us make sure that people benefit from tooth decay prevention while at the same time avoiding the unwanted health effects from too much fluoride," said Peter Silva, the EPA's assistant administrator for the Office of Water. Before the HHS announcement, **Neil Carman** of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club wrote to the mayor and City Council concerning a **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences** study, which he described as "the 24th scientific study linking fluoride in water to lower IQ's in children." Recounting the findings at length, Carman said they provide "compelling evidence why the City needs to end its outdated policy on fluoride and finally acknowledge the growing scientific evidence on how harmful even tiny amounts of highly toxic fluoride may be to children." — *Michael King*

NEWS

PARK PUD? PICK YOUR PUNCH LINE.

In the City Hall sitcom, the PUD jokes write themselves

BY WELLS DUNBAR

The Hustle's got his share of New Year's resolutions, and the most germane may be "bone up on zoning code." While it's doubtful I'll ever grasp a GO-MU-CO-NP request on first glance (that's general office-mixed use-conditional overlay-neighborhood plan), committing more of this alphabet soup to memory comes in handy.

Of course, there's one designation that doesn't need explanation: PUD, or "planned unit development," instantly committed to memory due to ample comedic potential (see: pulling my ..., chewing their ..., etc.). But the **Park PUD**, returning to City Council on Thursday, Jan. 13, following a postponement, is no laughing matter to neighborhood opponents.

In theory, this is the final stop in the convoluted history of the controversial proposal. The Park PUD was initially floated back in 2008 and was turned down by the Board of Adjustment. Fast-forward to early 2010, where it was similarly dissed by the **Planning Commission**.

One key issue is Park's lack of PUDness. PUD zoning is traditionally granted to large, multifaceted projects on a large tract, like the Domain. City guidelines recommend a 10-acre minimum for PUD zoning within the city. By contrast, the Park PUD, which proposes construction of an office tower with a restaurant at 801 Barton Springs Rd., across from Palmer Events Center, clocks in at a whopping three-fourths of an acre and doesn't comply with either the neighborhood plan or existing zoning.

So why, after its semitortured history, is the Park PUD returning now? We wager that applicant **Texas American Resources** (represented by law firm Drenner & Golden Stuart Wolff) has trimmed its original ludicrous request for a height from 180 feet down to 96 feet (still only allowable via PUD zoning), and it's hoping council will be eager to see new construction of any kind in our stumbling local economy.

The investors may be right. Despite a staff recommendation to deny PUD zoning, not to mention the Planning Commission's denial, which triggers a requirement for a council supermajority — six votes — to pass, it's difficult to count on a definitive no-vote on the project aside from Council Member **Laura Morrison**. Morrison has certainly been persuaded by opposition from the **Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association**, which argues that the Park would drastically overtop the neighborhood plan's 60-foot height limit.

Maybe council will be swayed by the "community benefits" accompanying the project — pay parking, for ludicrous example — lampooned in a video repeatedly landing in the Hustle's inbox, called **"How To Win Your Very Own Personal PUD in Austin, Texas."** It's one of those Xtranormal videos (posted online with this column), which allows anyone to generate a computer-animated clip simply by typing in a script, and what it lacks in humor, it makes up in hectoring. At its close, a car-

toon developer makes a campaign contribution to the cartoon City Council member and gets his permissive zoning.

RAINEY ON OUR PARADE?

Also on the Hustle's 2011 to-do list: become less of a hater (maybe!) of music permitting issues. Used to be, any sound-related issue raised by the landed gentry, their ears valiantly bleeding until an ungodly hour like 10pm, invariably provoked eye rolling from yours truly that exceeded the 85-decibel limit. Many cases still do, but the trouble of striking a balance between a burgeoning music and entertainment scene and existing neighbors is nowhere more apparent right now than on **Rainey Street**.

Rainey seemingly has it all: a lakefront nearby and close enough to Downtown and East Austin for those urban grime grace notes. Restaurant and bar owners have noticed, opening a stream of hip haunts and eateries.

This Thursday, one of those establishments — **Lustre Pearl** — faces a challenge of its outdoor music venue permit by a neighbor. Staff recommends denial of the appeal, noting that the bar has adjusted the permitted hours and built a stage oriented away from nearby homes. Yet the appeal does raise questions, if not about sound restrictions per se, then about the once sleepy neighborhood's absorption (or saturation) of new establishments and traffic.

Mayor Pro Tem **Mike Martinez**, who recently met with Rainey residents, says the issue goes deeper than a few errant food trailers and Pabst specials: "About 10 years ago, conversations started happening surrounding the building and expansion of the Convention Center," which led to incentives to develop neighboring Rainey. Zoning was the easiest tool at the city's disposal, and Rainey was zoned Central Business District like the rest of Downtown. "By the time we got to rezoning all that ... that's literally when the economy dropped out from under us," Martinez says. So with more ambitious projects on hold but CBD zoning in place, the way was cleared for cocktail bars like Lustre Pearl.

"We're trying to come up with a plan to address the lighting, parking, and pedestrian-access concerns" raised by residents of the dozen or so homes along Rainey, Martinez says. Longer term, "there is a conversation about creating a conditional use permit for a cocktail lounge use — you wouldn't have to go through a zoning change ... but it would cause at least one public hearing, some conversations to take place, and ultimately a council vote. ... Instead of waiting for concerns after the establishment is opened, we'd try to get out in front of them." ■

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FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE **COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.48.**

THURSDAY 13

AISD FORUM: FACILITIES MASTER PLAN How should AISD plan for renovations, building replacements, new schools, and other pressing facilities-related concerns? 6-8pm. Burger Center, 3200 Jones.

AUSTIN ENERGY FORUM: RATE REVIEW OVERVIEW In anticipation of upcoming electric-rate hikes, to be preceded over the next year by an ongoing rate review, AE's Public Involvement Committee convenes the first of a series of monthly meetings for gathering feedback and educating the public. 6-9pm. Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Rd.

KOOP RADIO SWEET 16 BENEFIT CONCERT features **Kelly Willis**, **Slaid Cleaves**, and **Sara Hickman**. 7pm. Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. \$20-60.

FRIDAY 14

YELLOW BIKE PROJECT BENEFIT Local bands plug in to support this community bike nonprofit. Admission includes treats, a tandem bike photo booth, and more. 9pm-2am. United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. \$6.

SATURDAY 15

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING: LAST DAY Bring your tree — minus decorations — to Zilker Park (2100 Barton Springs Rd., follow the signs to the polo fields). 10am-2pm.

MLK BOULEVARD CLEANUP Rep. **Dawnna Dukes** hosts this annual volunteer event. 10am-noon. J.J. Seabrook Park, 2000 Pershing.

SUNDAY 16

SUSAN BRIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE remembers the late poet/activist — the "voice of Barton Springs" — with a swim followed by a reception. 11am. Barton Springs, 2101 Barton Springs Rd.

MLK MUSICAL CELEBRATION Choirs and music ministries perform in praise of Martin Luther King Jr. 5pm. St. James Baptist Church, 3417 E. MLK, 928-2753. Free.

MONDAY 17

MLK MARCH & FESTIVAL goes from the MLK statue on the UT campus (23rd & San Jacinto, 9am) to Huston-Tillotson University (900 Chicon), where the celebration continues with a concert and more. 9am-4pm. 630-7926. Free.

TUESDAY 18

LAURA MORRISON CAMPAIGN KICKOFF Council Member Morrison launches her bid for re-election. 5:30-8pm. Nuevo León, 1501 E. Sixth.

IDENTIFYING & REPORTING ANIMAL CRUELTY Learn how to help make Austin safer for animals. 6:30-7:30pm. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez, 972-6084. Free.

POMP AND BARBECUE SAUCE Gov. **Rick Perry**'s swearing-in ceremony will go down easier with a dose of free barbecue afterward; be sure to order your ticket from www.2011texasinaugural.com by the Friday, Jan. 14, deadline. No tickets are required for the swearing-in itself. 11am. State Capitol, 1100 Congress.

Most importantly, Priest ringingly rejected DeLay's claim that he had been selectively prosecuted for partisan reasons. "Before there were Republicans and Democrats, there was America, and America is based on the rule of law."

Biblical Verdict

Priest acknowledged that the appellate courts might not agree with the trial's outcome, and DeLay may never spend a day inside a Texas prison. Travis County prosecutors had brought a criminal complaint for what began as a political crime, in part because they knew it meant a change of venue from Fort Bend County, where favorite son DeLay would simply never be called to account. Following the sentencing, DeLay's attorney, Dick DeGuerin, said tersely, "This will not stand." During the hearing, DeGuerin preceded his client in insisting that whether DeLay broke the law is "still an open question" and in claiming partisan persecution. "I call myself a yellow dog Democrat," said the Houston lawyer, "but what I've seen the Democrats do in this case makes me sick to my stomach."

Introducing character references from various dignitaries (among them Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu), DeGuerin had brought on DeLay's former House colleague Dennis Hastert to witness to DeLay's good works and religiosity, e.g., his organizing of congressional bible study. Assistant D.A. Gary Cobb, asking the court for 10 years in prison (DeLay would wear probation, Cobb said, "like Jesus on the cross wearing a crown"), cited his own biblical verse: "Whatsoever a man sows, that also shall he reap."

Just a Bug-Killer

The headline news quickly became the three-year prison sentence, certainly a surprise to DeLay and his defense, and to many others in the Heman Sweatt Building courtroom. Assistant D.A. Brand had begun his closing by arguing that just because DeLay wears "a coat and tie" doesn't mean he should be judged more loftily than citizens who labor in less fancy clothing. That triggered another self-pitying lament from

DeLay; he had begun his career, he recalled, as "a bug-killer" who crawled under houses for a living when he "didn't even own a coat and tie." He was only being prosecuted, he insisted, because "they don't agree with my politics."

It's abundantly clear that DeLay hasn't learned anything from this decadelong episode, except to reinforce his long-held conviction that the evil Democratic hosts of secular liberalism have always been out to get him. The one-time scourge of K Street is now directly threatened with imprisonment — although it's an even bet that the GOP-packed appellate courts will find a way to let him off. No one who recalls DeLay's enthusiastic support of the slave capitalists of Saipan (see *The Hammer*, by Lou Dubose and Jan Reid) can doubt that he deserves a little self-reflection in a Texas prison, even if for some of the lesser of his many sins.

Meanwhile, the fully ripened fruits of DeLay's election thievery (and consequent wholesale gerrymandering) are on current display at the state Capitol, where the central drama concerns the battle between the two wings of the Republican Party over who can be more effective-

ly ruthless on working people and immigrants. Thanks in large part to DeLay's handiwork, the GOP will soon postpone the political reconstruction of Texas for at least another decade, by disenfranchising the majority of Texans in the name of "limited government" — that is, rule by the same old white guys who were running the state when DeLay was a small-time backbencher best known as Hot Tub Tom.

At the time, they were mostly Democrats. Since desegregation and the ascendance of DeLay and his party, they now mostly call themselves Republicans. Whatever they call themselves, they remain dedicated to government of the many by the few, and they never get tired, they never run out of money, and they're not at all particular about what it takes to maintain their hold on power. But every once in a while, they overreach — allowing the rest of us a little satisfaction in the infrequent application of actual justice.

The conviction and sentencing of Tom DeLay is one of those times. ■

SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS MEETING

features presentations on the open-space ordinance, affordable housing, and what Austin can learn from Stuttgart, Germany. 6:30-8pm. Village Christian Apartments, 7925 Rockwood.

TEAPOT PARTY MEETUP The tea party this ain't. Join friends of cannabis to discuss reforming drug laws, and bring a dish for the potluck. 7pm. Texas Hemp Campaign Meeting House, 3109 E. Cesar Chavez. Free.

WEDNESDAY 19

WANT TO FEED THE METER MORE? The Downtown Commission holds a public hearing on a proposal to extend parking meter hours. 5:30pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second.

THURSDAY 20

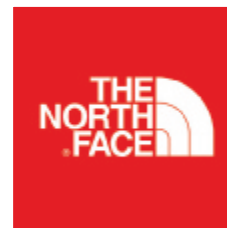
PICKFAIR COMMUNITY MEETING Learn about planned improvements for the **Pickfair Recreation Center** and park. 6:30-8pm. Spicewood Elementary School, 11601 Olson.

TEXAS GREEN NETWORK Help draft a letter to the city's chief sustainability officer, **Lucia Athens**, which she'll then address at TGN's March meeting. 5:30-8:30pm. Trifecta on 3rd, 360 Nueces. Free.

ONGOING

MEXICAN-AMERICAN TRAILBLAZERS EXHIBIT Learn about local Mexican-Americans who paved the way for future generations. *Austin History Center*, 810 Guadalupe, 974-7498. Free.

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Holly Won't Go Lightly



JANA BIRCHUM

Demolition work is a dirty business, and fewer jobs have demonstrated that more than the dismantling of the **Holly Street Power Plant** – and the project hasn't even begun.

As City Council convenes today (Thursday) to consider awarding a multimillion-dollar contract for the disassembly and remediation of the East Austin site, the planned project has already been hit with a flurry of allegations from competing bidders, with two formal protests and a lawsuit filed and quickly dismissed.

At issue is how city staff settled on its top choice, **TRC Environmental Corp.**, which submitted the second-costliest proposal out of six bids submitted. One low-scoring bidder, **CST Environmental LP**, has already threatened to refile its lawsuit, dismissed earlier this month, once a contract is signed.

City staff is recommending awarding the contract to TRC for \$26.1 million, which includes a \$1.2 million contingency in the event of an unforeseen event occurring during the project. Council also has the option of selecting the No. 2 choice, **Dixie Demolition**, which bid \$18.7 million. Awarding the contract to TRC, the second-highest of six bids, would require dipping into **Austin Energy's** operating budget to

increase appropriations for the Holly project, which the city initially estimated would cost \$10 million. The agenda item notes the concerns raised by the **Electric Utility Commission**, which approved the proposal but questioned the fiscal wisdom of selecting a higher-priced contractor, given that its evaluation score was less than a percentage point higher than Dixie. City staff has denied Dixie's request for a protest hearing, and it's uncertain whether the company is planning to take legal action if TRC is awarded the contract.

Earlier this week, **Mayor Lee Leffingwell** expressed concern about the cost difference between the top two competitors, which ranked "almost dead-even" on the city's scoring system. "We'll need to have some discussion about why, exactly, this cost difference should be disregarded," he said. What the higher-priced bidder has in its favor, he added, is a local presence and a sizeable number of minority- and women-owned businesses on its team. "I've heard some suggestions about postponing or rebidding," he said, "but I don't know how that's going to play out."

Both Dixie and CST have questioned TRC's ability to handle a

demolition project of this size in an environmentally and politically sensitive area of the city. Holly is located on the shores of Lady Bird Lake in a largely Hispanic neighborhood, where residents sharpened their activism skills protesting the power plant.

TRC Project Manager **Mike Holder** declined to comment on specific claims brought by competitors but provided a statement, noting, "This is a complex project, and we believe that we offer the best strategic plan and the best value to the City."

It's possible that TRC's inclusion of Hispanic contractors stood out in the minds of staff members weighing the decision. In comparisons between TRC and Dixie, TRC scored higher on its overall number of minority subcontractors, with a 19.85% Hispanic participation rate, compared to Dixie's 15.38%.

"It will be a historical vote, regardless of who gets the contract," said **Gavino Fernandez**, who serves with a handful of other neighborhood representatives on the Holly plant closure committee. At the same time, he said the dollar amount being disputed shouldn't be a deciding factor in awarding the contract, given the nature of the project. "You're talking years of contamination and years of toxic emissions," he said. "We'd rather have that investment. Our biggest fear is that [the vote] will be delayed."

Another committee member, **Lela Castro**, who grew up next door to the Holly plant, said she supports the contract going to TRC and would prefer that the city spend whatever is necessary to ensure the job is done right. "We don't want to go cheap," she said. "It's not a matter of tearing it down; it's a matter of tearing it down the right way."

Once the last bits of debris have been hauled away and the dust has cleared, the city plans to build a park on a portion of the 22-acre site. Other plans for the location are uncertain, but some neighbors have already made clear they do not want a city-funded museum or any other facility that would bring more traffic and trash to the neighborhood, which already serves as a de facto parking lot for events held at nearby **Fiesta Gardens**. Apart from the traffic concerns, neighborhood residents are chiefly concerned about the steady rise in property taxes as East Austin, with its proximity to Downtown, becomes more attractive to people with higher incomes and less affordable for existing residents.

The demolition process could take years to complete and will require some deft maneuvering, perhaps including building a temporary road to handle all the back-and-forth of work crews and heavy-equipment operators.

The plant operated for 47 years, despite decades of neighborhood opposition to its persistent noise, bright lights, oil leaks, and a series of fires in the Nineties. The city began the phasing out of the power plant in 2004, with the last turbine finally shuttered in September 2007. — Amy Smith

Marshalling Funds for Supportive Housing

City Council is expected to take the next step toward funding the permanent supportive housing proposal for the **Marshall Apartments** in East Austin at its Thursday, Jan. 13, meeting. Moreover, an item from two council members seeks to facilitate broader understanding and awareness of the city's supportive housing goals to avoid firestorms like the one that enveloped Marshall.

Adjourning as the City Council and doing business as the **Austin Housing Finance Corporation**, council members will conduct a public hearing and take comment on AHFC's plans to issue as much as \$6 million in housing revenue bonds to finance the Marshall Apartments initiative. This funding – up from an originally proposed \$5 million – would follow \$2.5 million in affordable housing bond dollars approved by the AHFC in

December. That initial investment provoked heated exchanges between nearby residents and property owners who oppose the project and other East Austin residents in favor.

The Marshall proposal would rehab the entire 100-unit property, spread across two lots: one at 1401 E. 12th within the city's urban renewal zone, the other at 1157 Salina, facing **Kealing Middle School**. Along with preserving the affordable Section 8 housing at the complex, it would also set aside 20 units for permanent supportive housing. PSH assists the homeless or individuals at risk of homelessness by offering them housing and holistic, wraparound social services such as case workers and job training. PSH also seeks to benefit the city by including "frequent users" of city services – jails, hospitals, and courts – as clients, in hope that

once stabilized, they'll become less of a drain on city resources. It's largely this class of clients – and their perceived proximity to drugs in East Austin, among other issues – that led to protest from the **Robertson Hill** and **Swede Hill** neighborhood associations (see "The 12th of Never," Dec. 17, 2010).

In the wake of the Marshall debacle, Council Members **Laura Morrison** and **Sheryl Cole** are sponsoring a resolution this week directing City Manager **Marc Ott** "to research best practices on engaging communities and building support for permanent supportive housing projects" and to report his results to council's **Comprehensive Planning and Transportation Subcommittee** by March.

The resolution notes "a broad community dialogue that includes stakeholders from neighborhoods all across Austin is needed to

establish successful approaches for integrating low-income housing throughout the city." Morrison concedes the city's outreach thus far has been "not so great" but hopes to improve the process.

"The city council, the city of Austin, and many organizations in town are committed to having geographic dispersion of low-income housing across the city," she says. (Several complaints against the Marshall project posited East Austin would become a dumping ground for the city's PSH units.) "We need to figure out how to be on the ground and make that happen," something she hopes the resolution will accomplish with its proposed stakeholder discussion groups as soon as Ott's recommendations are in place. It's somewhat of a daunting task. For all the controversy attending Marshall's 20 units, the city plans call for creating 350 units by 2014. — Wells Dunbar



JOHN ANDERSON

Before You Head to the Bus Stop ...

Mid-January is always a time of change at **Capital Metro**, when it does one of its twice-yearly schedule and route changes. Often these are just minor alterations, but this year the transit agency debuts some major adjustments, including policy changes. We've reported in recent weeks on the controversy surrounding some of these changes, but now it's time simply to report that they're here, beginning Sunday, Jan. 16:

FARE RESTRUCTURING

For most Capital Metro customers, this means a slight rise in some fares, but **MetroRail** users will see a decrease. The changes are mainly an attempt to simplify the fare structure – rather than having a different rate for each mode of transport (bus, express bus, and rail), there will now be two main fare rates: “local” and “regional.” The

local single-ride rate is \$1 and applies to bus (which was already a buck) and one-zone rail trips. The regional rate of \$2.75 covers express bus and two-zone rail. That's a drop in rail fares, which were previously \$2 for a single zone and \$3 for two. Similarly, multi-ride rates are also going up slightly for bus and express bus, while going down for rail (see “New Bus Fares, 2011,” right).

NO MORE FREE RIDES

Seniors, Medicare card holders, people with disabilities, **MetroAccess** customers, students ages 6-18, and reserve and active military must now pay a “reduced” (half-price) fare, provided they have the proper ID (see www.capmetro.org for details). The Disability Fare Card will be replaced by the Reduced Fare ID card, available for \$3 at the Capitol Metro Transit Store.

EXPANDED METRORAIL SERVICE (begins Tuesday, Jan. 18)

Sorry, you still don't get that weekend service for which many have clamored (although the agency plans a four-week trial of Friday-evening service at some point this year, as well as a few days of weekend/special event service to be announced). Midday service will be introduced, however, along with expanded reverse commute options. Currently the Red Line only runs during rush hour, but hourly midday runs between Lakeline Station and Downtown begin Tuesday. Also, all the morning inbound and evening outbound rush-hour runs will cover the entire route between Leander and Downtown (a few currently go only between Howard and Downtown).

SNUFF THAT CIGARETTE

Smoking was banned at all MetroRail stations back in September. Now that policy will be extended to the boarding areas of all Cap Metro transit centers and park-and-rides. Smoking is still allowed at bus stops, though Cap Metro hopes to eventually eliminate that as well.

For full details, including several bus route changes, go to www.capmetro.org/changes/jan2011-bus.asp. – Lee Nichols

New Bus Fares 2011

Fare Type	Local	Regional
Single ride	\$1/\$0.50	\$2.75/\$1.35
Day pass	\$2/\$1	\$5.50/\$2.75
7-day pass	\$9/\$4.50	\$20/\$10
31-day pass	\$30/\$15	\$64/\$32

Additional Passes

MetroAccess 10-ticket booklet	\$15
MetroAccess monthly pass	\$40
RideShare monthly pass	\$60
Stored value card (\$15 value)	\$12

Duty vs. Gattis: Williamson County Fireworks

The legal range war between Williamson County Attorney **Jana Duty** and the **Williamson County Commissioners Court** – and more specifically, County Judge **Dan A. Gattis** – heated up over the winter holidays, and motions are flying back and forth in Duty's lawsuit against Gattis. Officially, Duty filed a “removal” lawsuit against Gattis on Dec. 20, charging a misappropriation of county funds in hiring outside law firms unnecessarily and without required authorization by the Commissioners Court. Duty's pleadings, presented to a Williamson County district court in a civil lawsuit, ask that the court suspend Gattis until the lawsuit is heard and remove Gattis (should the suit be successful) from his position as county judge, on five counts of “incompetence and official misconduct” – all involving the unauthorized hiring of outside counsel.

Duty has been feuding with the WilCo commissioners for some months over their hiring of outside counsel (instead of relying on the elected county attorney, i.e., Duty), supposedly because they've “lost faith” in her judgment; her separate lawsuit against commissioners, filed in September, remains pending. The suit against Gattis concerns not only hiring unauthorized counsel for various matters but, most sensationally, hiring lawyers to defend Judge **Don Higginbotham** – a personal friend of Gattis – against sexual harassment charges brought by two county employees (a federal

lawsuit is pending against Higginbotham). Duty charges that Gattis and the commissioners have made a habit of spending money on outside lawyers without discussion or a vote, authorizing the payments later, and then attempting to conceal or redact the paperwork to effectively backdate the transactions.

At least some of Duty's claims against Gattis suggest potential criminal charges, and Duty apparently contemplated a criminal complaint, according to reports in the online **Austin Bulldog**, which has been covering the case in recent weeks. But Williamson County District Attorney **John Bradley** declined to pursue criminal charges, and Duty instead filed a lawsuit on Dec. 22. Last week, Gattis' attorney, **Martha Dickie**, filed a motion to dismiss on the grounds that her client's alleged offenses occurred prior to his November reelection, and thus have been effectively rendered moot under Texas law; Duty's attorney, **Jason Nassour**, filed a response noting that voters had no knowledge of the offenses prior to Nov. 2, and therefore were unable to render judgment by voting.

Gattis has described Duty's charges as a personal vendetta and waste of public time and money (he's reportedly paying for his own defense). Nassour told the Bulldog: “Do we think Judge Gattis is a hardened felon and should go to jail? No. But should a jury be able to decide if what he does rises to incompetence or official misconduct? Yes they should.” – Michael King



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Will Texas Be Safe for Romeos and Juliets?

According to the **Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee**, the state should go its own way when it comes to the registration and monitoring of **sex offenders**.

In its interim study report released last week, the committee, chaired by Sen. **John Whitmire**, D-Houston, recommends that the state unbind itself from federal laws that provide for minimum offender registration requirements – clearing the way for the state to devise its own methods of assessing the risks individual offenders pose to the community at large and (finally) allowing the state to create a much-needed path to allowing qualified offenders off the list.

As of Jan. 6, there were 64,565 names on the state's sex offender registry, which is maintained by the **Department of Public Safety**. The swift growth of crime and punishment in this area of the law has created a number of issues. While initially designed to keep the public – in particular, children – safe from predators, the number of offenses eligible for registration has ballooned since the registries were first created in 1994, via the federal **Jacob Wetterling Act**. Many experts – including some who testified before the **Senate Criminal Justice Committee** last summer – agree that the addition of so many types of crimes has diluted any positive effect the registry might have had on public safety. (The registry includes not just serial pedophiles but also so-called “**Romeo and Juliet**” cases, often involving youthful romantic affairs in which one party is younger than 17, Texas' age of consent.)

As we reported in September (see “Sex Offenders Exposed,” Sept. 10, 2010), there are other, similar relationships, such as that of **Martin Ezell** and his wife, who became involved when he was already 32 and she was just shy of 17. Ezell was prosecuted and given deferred adjudication on the charge of sexual assault of a child. Though he successfully completed his sentence, he will have to register for life. In the Ezell family's case, the registry's effect seems merely cruel: He's

unable to find meaningful work; the couple's three children have, at times, been ostracized at school; and the family has had to move numerous times when neighbors have discovered his name and picture on the public database and responded negatively. Researchers around the country have determined that registration does serious collateral damage to sex offenders' families. “Based on the research, [and] the testimony provided during the hearing,” reads the committee's report, “it is clear registries do not provide the public safety, definitely not the way it is now.”

Although state lawmakers have previously asked the state's **Council on Sex Offender Treatment** to devise a scheme allowing qualified individuals a path to deregistration, those efforts have been stalled because of a state statute provision binding Texas law to the federal law – which is itself in flux. At issue is whether the state will enact the **Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act** – in essence, an update to the Wetterling provisions – that seeks to “provide consistency,” as the committee describes it, among the states' registries. But implementation would require the state to overhaul its current registry. For example, while Texas has sought to classify offenders based on risk, the Adam Walsh Act would classify them solely by the offense – a situation that the CSOT and many in law enforcement believe could cause misclassifications. This system would also increase, for many, the number of times per year registration must be updated with local authorities – at the cost of those local agencies – and could significantly increase the number of individuals required to register for life, in part because the act adds additional offenses requiring registration. The AWA also requires juveniles as young as 14 to be publicly registered, a decision that, in Texas, is currently left to judges' discretion.

Finally, and importantly, implementation could cost the state nearly \$39 million, while the penalty for not doing so – the loss of



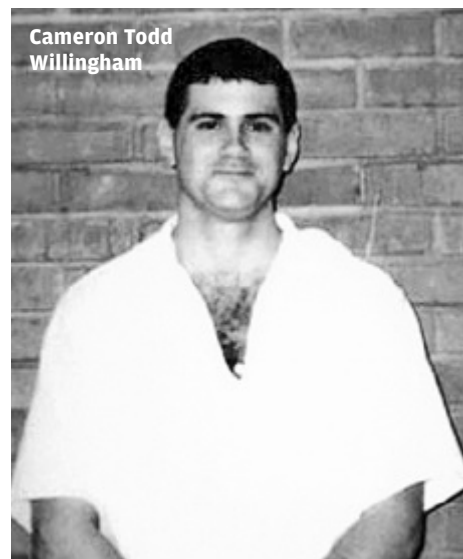
some grant funding – would cost just a little more than \$1.4 million. “Retaining the ten percent of federal funding is not adequate incentive” to enact the AWA, writes the committee. “Sex offenses are very serious crimes. There is no debate over whether violent and dangerous people should be punished [and] monitored extensively,” reads the report. “However like with most issues there are levels and gray areas. In addition there are limited resources to address all of the issues facing the state today.” In the end, the committee recommends that the state not implement AWA.

Whether lawmakers will take that advice remains to be seen. Dallas Democrat Sen. **Royce West** has filed a bill (see “This Way to the Big Top!,” p.18) that would update state law to comply with the AWA. That would pose additional challenges for people like Ezell who have been searching for a way off the registry.

As it happens, Ezell caught a glimmer of hope in mid-December, when then-District Judge **Charlie Baird** ruled that the state's registration requirement, as applied to Ezell, is unconstitutional. The registry's purpose is to enhance public safety, Baird wrote, and is not meant to be “so punitive as to be a criminal sanction.” He continued, “When the

remedial nature of the statutory scheme is not served by registration, and the registration requirement serves as the basis for continued criminal prosecution and causes the disruption of the ordinary course of five lives [Ezell, his wife, and their three children], the registration requirement, as applied to a particular individual, loses its remedial function and becomes purely punitive.” Baird ordered Department of Public Safety to “remove all information” about Ezell from the registry.

Despite the order, the DPS has not yet removed Ezell from the list. According to an e-mailed statement from DPS spokeswoman **Tela Mange**, “DPS declined comment until its attorneys could review and evaluate the ruling.” Indeed, the DPS is still bound to comply with the linkage between state and federal law as it applies to deregistration; nonetheless, Baird's order is valid. Interestingly, Ezell's attorney, **Gus Garcia Jr.**, says he sent notice to DPS attorneys prior to the hearing, but no one from the agency responded. “We're hoping that [Ezell] will be able to avail himself of the judge's order,” said Garcia, “because it's really like he's in limbo right now.” He added that it may take legislative action – enacting the committee recommendations, perhaps – for Ezell to find a final measure of justice. – Jordan Smith



Cameron Todd Willingham

Long-Awaited Testimony Rejects Arson Conclusion

Fire science expert **Craig Beyler** told the state's **Forensic Science Commission** on Jan. 7 that, at best, the cause of the fatal fire in **Cameron Todd Willingham's** home nearly two decades ago is “undetermined.” Furthermore, as time goes by and science improves, the case for the fire to be considered arson “gets less and less, not more and more,” he said. The testimony came some 14 months after Beyler was initially scheduled to discuss the 1991 fire that claimed the lives of Willingham's three young children – and resulted in his conviction and execution for arson.

Beyler's conclusions were echoed by **John DeHaan**, a 40-year fire scientist who has authored and co-authored several seminal fire

science textbooks and who previously worked for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. DeHaan, one of four witnesses asked to present before the commissioners last week, said that although there was not a “uniform standard of practice” for conducting fire investigations back in 1991, there are still elements of investigation that are universal – such as ruling out other accidental or natural causes for a fire before concluding that arson was to blame. That was not done by the **Texas State Fire Marshal's Office**, which handled the Willingham investigation. In fact, Beyler told the commission, which is made up predominately of scientists, it appears Deputy Fire Marshal **Manuel Vasquez** (who has since died) never even looked through the charred debris in the

bedroom where the Willingham children died. Instead, that debris was simply “shoveled” out the bedroom window. How could Vasquez determine that arson caused the fire if he never even sifted through all the evidence?

According to **Ed Salazar**, an assistant fire marshal who spoke to the commission Friday afternoon (after sitting somewhat steely-faced through the morning portion of the meeting with Beyler and DeHaan), Vasquez did rule out other possible causes of the fire – it's just that he didn't record it in his reports. Salazar said that when he began as a lawyer with the office in 1994, he'd noticed the reports were often sparse. But, he suggested, that doesn't mean they're incomplete. There is “no way I can sit here and defend the lack

Let the Show Begin

The 82nd Legislature of the state of Texas was gavelled to session on Jan. 11, beginning a 140-day slog during which one of the biggest freshman classes in history must face one of the most challenging budgets on record.

On the House side, as widely predicted for months, the attempt to remove San Antonio Republican **Joe Straus** as speaker fizzled out. An unofficial, nonbinding vote of the House Republican Caucus on Jan. 10 showed that Straus, who already had the backing of most Democrats, held 70 Republican pledges in his back pocket. Rep. **Warren Chisum** of Pampa, the establishment conservatives' choice to retake the gavel, withdrew his nomination after that vote, and when the House gathered, tea party favorite Rep. **Ken Paxton**, R-McKinney, used a personal privilege speech to tell members that he was also pulling out. That left Straus as the sole nominee, but Rep. **Leo Berman**, R-Tyler, decided to play dog in the manger, calling for a record vote. When all the buttons were pushed, it was 132 for Straus, 15 against, and two present not voting. Those ayes have already received fair warning from right-wing groups such as **Empower Texans** that a vote for Straus will count against them when legislative scorecards are drawn up.

Meanwhile, the storm clouds of the state's pressing budget shortfall were already gathering in the Senate. In a speech to the chamber, Senate Finance Committee Chair **Steve Ogden** laid out some bleak numbers. While warning that both education and health and human services provisions will undoubtedly face cuts, he proposed reforms to both school finance and the state's franchise tax. Attempts to fix the woefully underperforming business tax fell flat in 2009, but Ogden put them back on the table. "None of us were elected to go out and raise taxes," he told his fellow senators but added that it was time for them to repair what they had broken. For more on the budget and other expected legislative woes, see "This Way to the Big Top!," p.18.

— Richard Whittaker



After winning overwhelming support for another term as House speaker, Joe Straus heads immediately to his happy wife, Julie.

Budget Imbalancing Act

The Texas Constitution instructs the state Legislature to pass a balanced budget. So now that State Comptroller **Susan Combs** has announced the state is already short about \$4.3 billion in tax revenue, lawmakers have a slightly clearer idea of how apocalyptically bad their finances will be for the next two years.

On Jan. 10, Combs released her revenue estimate for the 2012-13 biennium. In addition to the roughly \$100 billion the state will receive from the federal government and dedicated fees, another \$77.3 billion in revenue will be generated from taxes, nondedicated fees, and other income. But that doesn't represent how much money is actually available. Combs also announced that the state goes into the next session \$4.3 billion in the hole due to collapsing sales and gas taxes. And more than \$800 million will go to swell the **Rainy Day Fund** from its current high of \$8.2 billion to a colossal \$9.4 billion in 2013. Combined, that means there will only be \$72.2 billion available for general revenue spending, down from \$77.1 billion in 2009.

The big question now is how much that shortfall contributes to the total deficit —

but don't ask Combs for the answer. "We don't do estimates of spending," she told the Capitol press corps. "We do estimates of revenue."

Working from legislative appropriations requests for the six largest agencies, the **Center for Public Policy Priorities** is estimating a \$27 billion shortfall next biennium. CPPP senior fiscal analyst **Dick Lavine** has called for lawmakers to fill the gap by tapping the Rainy Day Fund and to revise broken and underperforming parts of the tax code. Sales and gasoline taxes rose in the late 1990s, he said, "and even with higher taxes, the state did extremely well."

However, **Texas Public Policy Foundation** President **Talmadge Heflin** railed against tax reform, instead proposing cuts, cuts, and more cuts. In a statement, he said, "This session's budget writers must recognize that just as Texans' family budgets have shrunk, so now must the state's." He lauded the radical spending cuts of 2003, when the Lege filled a \$10 billion shortfall with mass layoffs of state employees and Medicaid cuts. House Appropriations Committee veteran Rep.

Dawnna Dukes, D-Austin, on the other hand, described the 2003 process as "extremely grueling, and it was extremely depressing." This time around, she warned, "We will see massive levels of unemployment as a result of a policy position of 'Cut without finding new revenue.'" — R.W.

of specificity in these reports," Salazar said. Nonetheless, the investigator in 1991 "followed ... protocol; they followed the practices that were being used at the time."

Indeed, the Fire Marshal's Office told the commission in August that it would stand by its initial determination in the Willingham case, a position that DeHaan said was "dis-maying." DeHaan and Beyler are among nearly a dozen fire science experts who have reviewed the state's work in the Willingham case and concluded it relied too much on outdated science, even by 1991 standards.

The **Innocence Project** asked the Forensic Science Commission to review not only Willingham's case but also that of **Ernest Willis**. Like Willingham, Willis was convicted of arson and sentenced to die. He was later exonerated, however, based on

expert opinion that the investigation was flawed and the arson determination erroneous. Willis was released from prison just months after Willingham was executed.

Beyler told commissioners that the state's work in both cases was faulty.

Beyler's meeting with the commission was initially scheduled for October 2009. Just days before the meeting, however, Gov. **Rick Perry** replaced several commission members — including **Sam Bassett**, an Austin defense attorney whom the panel had appointed as chair — and installed Williamson County District Attorney **John Bradley** as the new head of the group. Bradley indefinitely postponed the Beyler



John Bradley

meeting and advocated scrapping it altogether, a move that was blocked by the members of the panel who are actually scientists.

That didn't stop Bradley last week from behaving combatively toward Beyler, DeHaan, and even a fellow commissioner, Tarrant County chief medical examiner **Nizam Peerwani**, as Bradley lobbed softballs at Salazar. In both the tone and the substance of his questions, Bradley seemed intent on agreeing with Salazar that the state's success or failure in investigating the Willingham fire is little more than a matter of personal judgment. Whether his fellow commissioners will agree — and what will happen next in the review of the Willingham case — remains to be seen.

— Jordan Smith

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This Way to the Big Top!

From budget disaster to hysterical bloodletting, the circus – featuring many elephants, a few donkeys, and legendary RINOs – is back in town



BY RICHARD WHITTAKER
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JASON STOUT

In 2009, the 81st Legislature of the state of Texas was nicknamed the “hurry up and wait” session – in honor of legislators’ inability to get much of anything done. This time around, Capitol insiders are speculating that the 82nd Lege will be the “over my dead body” session, as Democrats ponder a seemingly unstoppable wave of conservative legislation, and Republicans face a budget that will not cover line items born of political dogma.

What slowed the last session? The exit of House Speaker Tom Craddick, and his replacement by Speaker Joe Straus, was supposed to signify a new era under the Dome, one that reflected the narrow 76-74 partisan split in the lower chamber. However, that changeover in House management meant it took until Feb. 12 to appoint committees – about twice as long as under Craddick. Then there was the infamous late-session “chub,” when Democrats dragged things to a grinding halt, killing numerous bills, in order to block an anti-immigrant voter ID bill (a step they took after hard-line conservatives scuttled any attempts for a consensus version).

This time around, the overwhelming Republican majorities – just over two-thirds in the House, just under two-thirds in the Senate – theoretically mean the GOP can pile-drive to passage any legislation it desires. With a multibillion-dollar deficit opening the door to program slashing, plus the once-a-decade redistricting of legislative, congressional, and State Board of Education seats, it’s a dream opportunity for anti-government GOPers. Beyond these two structural priorities, there’s a new flurry of voter ID bills as well as the threat of Arizona-style “papers please” measures.

If that’s not enough, there’s the usual mix of Christian conservative/family values bills, sprinkled with tea party obsessions like nullifying federal health care reform and enabling state rejection of federal law. Right-wing zealot and birther conspiracy theorist Rep. Leo Berman, R-Tyler, has even filed House Bill 295, requiring presidential candidates to provide a birth certificate for access to the Texas ballot. In a normal session, such wild hares would languish in committee; this session, the fringe right may have the votes to get them to the floor. The question becomes: What does the GOP caucus want to pass, and how unified will it be?

Whatever the majority’s agenda, they’ll have to move fast. The Legislature has only 140 days to set the state running for the next two years. Can they do it? The outlook isn’t promising. Consider the job of the Sunset Advisory Commission: One of the state’s points of pride is that it reviews every single state agency every 12 years. But in 2009, lawmakers reviewed so few agencies that they had to return for a special session just to pass legislation rescheduling the backlog. With a loaded and divisive legislative agenda, a seemingly impossible budget void to fill, and 28 agencies up for full or partial review, the expectation is that lawmakers, lobbyists, and staff will be back for special sessions over the summer.

And what of the Nov. 2 tea party revolution? For all the talk of a dramatic change in the status quo, the balance of power remains relatively unchanged. Republicans still hold all statewide offices, and the Senate is still split 20-11. There are two new faces in the upper chamber. On the Republican side, retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Brian Birdwell will complete Kip

Averitt’s unexpired term, while Democratic former El Paso County Attorney José Rodríguez replaces veteran legislator Eliot Shapleigh, who stepped down before the primary. The surprise is that two other faces return: Senate Finance Committee Chair Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, and Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, had both threatened to step down but ended up running again (much to the chagrin of Republicans in their districts hoping for a promotion). The elegant, almost glacial political dance that is the Senate will continue almost unchanged.

In the House, the GOP took 22 Democratic seats; add new lawmakers replacing retirees, and there are 34 freshmen in the new class. Some Democratic losses were regarded as marginal. Mark Homer held his Paris seat by only 2% in 2008 (a Democratic high-water year), and so was not expected to withstand a Republican backlash. Other defeats – for example, Patrick Rose of Dripping Springs – were body blows that deprived Democrats not only of current incumbents but potential candidates for higher office.

Of the 22 disappearing Dems, one name stands out: Waco’s Jim Dunnam. As House Democratic Caucus leader, Dunnam has been the key figure in keeping his members a viable legislative force even as the minority

party. Now they face a tough session without the man that led the Killer Ds on their quorum-busting flight to Oklahoma in 2003 and orchestrated the 2009 chubbing. The group’s current chair, Rep. Jessica Farrar, D-Houston, looks likely to maintain her leadership position but does so while the House Dems are at a historic low ebb. Farrar has big shoes to fill.

The committee lineup will also shift dramatically, with nine of the 34 chairs from the 2009 session either retiring or losing re-election. In addition, two minority ethnic caucuses traditionally linked with the Democrats take on Republican members, as Stefani Carter of Dallas and James White from Hillister join the Texas Legislative Black Caucus, while the Mexican-American Legislative Caucus absorbs four new Hispanic Republicans and Edinburg defector Aaron Peña moves to the GOP side of the table. Locally, the Travis County delegation will include its first Republican since 2006 – Paul Workman, who ousted Democrat Valinda Bolton in a brutal and smear-heavy campaign.

There’s undeniable potential for this to become a sea change Legislature, in which the Texas GOP establishes the perpetual majority it has long desired and reshapes the political landscape in its backward-looking self-image. With right-wing power brokers like Americans for Prosperity and Young Conservatives of Texas condemning everyone in the GOP ranks from Democratic defectors like Allan Ritter of Nederland to longtime conservative mainstays like Beverly Woolley of Houston, as “RINOs” (Republicans In Name Only), lawmakers may well view every vote as an ideological purity test.

However, ranking Republicans like House Appropriations Committee Chair Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, and Public Health Chair Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham, have already started trying to blunt tea party aggression against essential programs like Medicaid. Once on the floor, the more pragmatic GOPers are likely to work with the more seasoned Democrats – presuming there are enough of either. If that doesn’t happen, then the dogmatically driven bloodbath of programs, agencies, and public institutions could be worse than even the bleakest predictions.

What follows are *Chronicle* reporters’ brief previews of likely considerations in a number of high-profile issues – from the gaping budget deficit to the trickle-down effects on state infrastructure – to which the Lege will lend its very divided attention for the next six months. Join us for the ride – often outrageous, occasionally hair-raising, now and then even amusing. After all, it’s the local political franchise of the human comedy.

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Budget Deficit by Design

When it comes to funding state programs in Texas over the next two years, there's only one question: "How bad will it be?"

The long-predicted structural budget deficit will finally implode this session, due to three factors: 1) the ongoing national economic recession, 2) dogmatic resistance among most Republicans (and some Democrats) to fixing Texas' nonfunctional system of taxation, and 3) an abiding (and seemingly inexplicable) unwillingness to tap the state's \$9 billion **Rainy Day Fund**. Since the state constitution requires a balanced budget, lawmakers must solve a predicted budget shortfall from current spending of somewhere between \$20 billion and \$28 billion for the biennium – a serious slab

of the \$182.3 billion budget passed in 2009 for the 2010-11 biennium. Out of that, only \$77.1 billion was discretionary spending that the state can cut, and that figure was already down 10.5% from the 2008-09 biennial budget.

In essence, the budget has already collapsed. Last January, all state agencies were asked to identify 5% in cuts from their current general revenue spending and their dedicated general revenue budgets, where cash is placed into specific accounts by legislation. In August, the **Legislative Budget Board** released a list of \$1.25 billion in items to slash from agency budgets immediately. Four months later, Gov. **Rick Perry** requested that the agencies find an additional 2.5% in cuts – and that reduced sum becomes the new baseline number for requests for the 2012-13 biennium. The burden has been shared disproportionately, with general revenue-dependent agencies getting hammered far worse than those that have alternative revenue streams like fees or federal grants.

Universities are already feeling the pinch, with liberal arts departments suffering worse than science and engineering faculty, who receive more business-backed research grants. Other agencies are already bracing for layoffs and furloughs: On Jan. 4, Commissioner of Education **Robert Scott** informed all 1,000 **Texas Education Agency** staffers that the agen-

cy's human resources department will be reviewing all positions. Considering how many state agencies are based in Austin, the local economic impact of any layoffs could be disproportionately severe.

The state is also sitting on a pile of underfunded obligations. In their legislative appropriations request, staff at the **Employees Retirement System** calculated that they will need to collect an additional 2.39% of payroll just to remain actuarially sound, otherwise the ERS won't have enough money to cover its payments. While the **Teacher Retirement System of Texas** should be sound through 2072, that has only been accomplished by holding pensions static for the last 10 years – that is, effectively cutting them by not accounting for a decade of inflation.

All this adds up to the cold, hard fact that legislators will be hacking down already parsimonious state spending to fill a deficit gap created in part by their predecessors. House Appropriations Committee Chair **Jim Pitts**, R-Waxahachie, has already warned that some agencies may be completely dissolved as the state attempts to cover its statutory obligations. Meanwhile, however, some lawmakers of both parties are using this period of intense fiscal scrutiny as an opportunity to push through meaningful reform of broken systems. Whether their measured approach will survive the tea party anti-government hysteria remains to be seen. – R.W.

Redistricting GOP Power Grab

The decennial federal census was just completed, reflecting explosive Texas population growth – and it's time to redraw the lines of all political districts.

The previous decade saw a fierce battle: After Republicans won the Texas House in 2002, they attempted – at the behest of then-U.S. House Majority Leader **Tom DeLay** – an unprecedented second redistricting of congressional lines in 2003, because DeLay wanted more Republicans in the state's congressional delegation. Democrats cried foul, but Republicans called it deserved payback for 1991 redistricting. The Dems tried to gum up the works – first House members broke quorum by fleeing to Ardmore, Okla., then Senate Dems did the same, leaving for

Albuquerque, N.M. – but eventually the GOP prevailed. Austin was at the epicenter of the fight, with liberal Austin being split three ways in an unsuccessful attempt to oust U.S. Rep. **Lloyd Doggett** from office.

Expect Republicans to stick it to Democrats and Austin again, especially since there are even more seats up for grabs this time: Texas will gain four seats in congressional reapportionment, increasing the delegation from 32 to 36. The GOP will get creative in its line-drawing to grab as many of those as possible and hold on to power for as long as possible in a state where the demographic trends (black and Hispanic populations are growing much faster than white) are running against them.

If the Lege fails to come up with a map, the lines might be drawn by the **Legislative Redistricting Board** (composed of the lieu-



tenant governor, speaker of the house, attorney general, comptroller, and land commissioner); in any case, any plan will have to pass muster with the Justice Department or the courts for compliance with the **Voting Rights Act**. – Lee Nichols

Education No Room at the Inn



The 81st, in 2009, was the "education session": House Bill 3 tweaked the **school accountability system** with an eye to making it less punitive, while HB 3646 was a supposedly sweeping overhaul of the state's malfunctioning **school finance process**. Both were intended to patch school districts' major holes for a few more years. This year, with education funding as likely as any other budget item to be slashed, the big push will be to re-fix school finances.

Senate Finance Committee Chair **Steve Ogden**, R-Bryan, has proposed a constitutional amendment that would totally rewrite the system, replacing capped local property taxes with a statewide property tax that districts could then supplement with voter approval.

That would require a constitutional amendment in the next general election – an iffy proposition – and districts are looking for more immediate solutions. Unfortunately for employees, discussions have focused on giving districts more options for paying workers less – including layoffs and furloughs. House Joint Resolution 46 by Rep. **James White**, R-Hillister, could open that door by releasing districts from complying with any unfunded mandates. Similarly, tax-slashing proposals to repeal the class-size cap (currently at 22 students) and replace it by using a schoolwide average calculation could see some classrooms pushed to bursting point – especially in those districts already underfunded. – R.W.

CONTINUED ON P.20

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Voter ID

GOP Pet Project Looks Rosy

The issue that ground the 81st session to a halt will probably zoom through the 82nd.

The debate: Republicans say voters should be required to present **photo identification** (or multiple other forms of ID) in addition to their voter certificates at the polls, in order to protect the integrity of the ballot.

Democrats say it's actually an attempt to disenfranchise women, the elderly, and racial minorities – groups less likely to have photo ID and more likely to vote Democratic. Dems also claim it's a solution in search of a problem, as voter impersonation is very rare and never an effective form of voter fraud.

The history: In 2009, the Senate grew unusually rancorous as Republicans forced the waiving of the traditional two-thirds rule to pass the bill over Democratic objections. In the House, as the session approached its end, Democrats “chubbed” the bill to death (a tactic similar to filibustering) – and, in the process, killed many other bills that were waiting in line behind it.



This session: The anti-Obama backlash in November gave Republicans a supermajority in the House, so any attempts by Dems to drag down voter ID this time will likely fail. The Dems' best bet would be to kill voter ID bills on rules violations, but in the end this is likely a lost cause. – L.N.



Women's Health

At the Mercy of the Hard Right

In keeping with conservative legislators' oxymoronic insistence that women cannot comprehend the consequences of **abortion** without state-mandated education – but are nonetheless perfectly suited to child rearing – again come bills that would deter women from seeking safe, legal abortion. Chief is the reprise of the proposal to require women seeking abortions to first undergo ultrasounds. House Bill 325 by Rep. **Todd Smith** and Senate Bill 130 by Houston GOP Sen.

Dan Patrick would each require a doctor to show a woman seeking an abortion an image of the fetus (though she would be allowed to avert her eyes) while describing in detail fetal development and even playing for the woman the sound of the **fetal heartbeat**. This, along with other proposals – including the creation of a **“Choose Life” license plate** (HB 238 and SB 257) – have been narrowly defeated in the past; this session, with the GOP's House supermajority, women's health and choice advocates fear that such plans might finally find the governor's desk.

Moreover, the current fiscal situation clouds funding for all women's health, includ-

ing the always vexed allocation for family planning. Lawmakers intent on erasing **Planned Parenthood** from the provider matrix have worked overtime to figure out ways to subtract from the state's largest provider of women's health screenings while not running afoul of the requirements attached to the overwhelmingly federal funds. This year things could be even dicier, particularly when it comes to spending certain federal funds that have been used for family planning but are also earmarked for programs for other at-risk populations such as the elderly. Lawmakers could legally shift some of that money to fill the gaps in other programs.

On a positive note, San Antonio Rep. **Mike Villarreal** is sponsoring a bill to make the pilot **Women's Health Program**, set to expire this year, a full-time health care strategy. The program provides health screenings to low-income women who wouldn't otherwise be eligible for Medicaid and has been wildly successful in saving state money – some \$40 million in 2008 alone.

On the other hand, Sen. **Bob Deuell**, R-Greenville, has sought an opinion from Attorney General **Greg Abbott** concerning whether lawmakers can eliminate Planned Parenthood as a program provider. That opinion is due any day now; if Abbott figures out a way to give Deuell what he wants, it's safe to assume Planned Parenthood would sue.

It remains to be seen how lawmakers will continue to justify spending millions each year since 2005 on the **Alternatives to Abortion** program – which is designed to “encourage” women to complete their pregnancies but provides no medical services whatsoever. Last session, lawmakers raised the program's budget by a whopping 60% – to provide counseling to carry pregnancies to term and to provide referrals to other government-funded projects, like food stamps. It's not clear whether that will fly this time, but along the way, expect plenty of hypocritical grandstanding from the usual suspects.

– Jordan Smith

City Beat

Hanging on to Crumbs

“Austin-bashing” is normally the local dread of any legislative session, and while this year the city will again seek to preserve local control, such concerns are being overwhelmed by the broader drama set to unfold this spring: the gaping state deficit.

“The overriding issue during the regular session of the 82nd Texas Legislature is the State budget crisis and the need for an estimated \$15-25 billion in new revenue to keep State services at their current level,” read the general principles outlined in the city of Austin's current legislative program. “All Texas cities will need to make sure that State government costs or revenue needs are not shifted to local taxpayers and residents out of proportion to the benefits obtained.”

Among other priorities are fighting **unfunded state mandates** and seeking funding for city and county **health care efforts**. Local control initiatives are numerous, including a call to “protect the current status of the Texas electric markets and to maintain local control of taxpayer investment in **Austin Energy**” (the city-owned utility), opposing **tax appraisal and revenue caps**, fighting encroachment on **water rights and water quality** measures (a perennial), defending **zoning authority** within both the city and its extraterritorial jurisdiction, preserving **eminent domain** powers, and more.

More specifically, the city is seeking legislation regarding changes to the city **Police**



Retirement System, bumping city contributions from 19% to 20% in October 2011, then to 21% in 2012. Conversely, the retirement system for non-public-safety workers may take a hit via city-sought legislation that would increase requirements for employees seeking full retirement benefits. The city again supports **meet-and-confer** bargaining for non-civil-service employees (the bill died last session), as well as state funding for city and regional **transportation** efforts, **social services**, and **public libraries**. Needless to say, with the deficit first and foremost in lawmakers' minds, all such funding may be so much wishful thinking. See the city's legislative program with this article online at austinchronicle.com. – Wells Dunbar



Criminal Justice

The Costs of Crackdowns

As of last week, 43 men in Texas have been exonerated via post-conviction **DNA testing**, and in the majority of those wrongful convictions, **faulty eyewitness identifications** played a role. (There have been other exonerations implicating related problems, such as prosecutorial misconduct.) Does the growing number of exonerees mean that the Texas criminal justice system needs reform? Yes, indeed it does. Does that mean that lawmakers will be looking to fix these problems during this session? Not necessarily.

A few of the modest reforms that looked ripe last session – including eyewitness ID and writ reform, which died as a result of voter-ID-bill-prompted chubbing – will return. For example, the eyewitness ID bill filed by

Alpine Dem Rep. **Pete Gallego** (House Bill 215), partnered in the Senate by Houston Dem **Rodney Ellis** (Senate Bill 121), remains problematic. While both would require the state to draft a model law enforcement policy for conducting eyewitness IDs, a failure to follow that policy would not bar admissibility of the testimony – what's the point?

Looming over everything is the scary budget mess, which has led to much discussion of how to control or constrict the state's prison population, which currently hovers at just less than 160,000 inmates. The early word is that some combination of closing (likely older) prisons and moving more money into community supervision programs is probably on the agenda.

For budgetary reasons, it may also be difficult for lawmakers to justify creating more criminal offenses or ratcheting up the penalties on existing ones. There's hope that rational – if only fiscally conservative – thinking will affect the process. One such modest proposal is HB 227 by Rep. **Todd Smith**, R-Eules, to exempt from the fast-growing (and costly) sex offender registry many youthful “Romeo and Juliet” offenses (passed last session but vetoed by the governor). A similar proposal has been filed by Dallas Dem Sen. **Royce West**, but his version (SB 198) also proposes that the state adopt the language of the federal **Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act** – an unfunded mandate that could cost an estimated \$39 million and increase the burden on local police departments. For more on the Adam Walsh Act, see “Will Texas Be Safe for Romeos and Juliets?,” p.16. – J.S.

Drug War

Save Lives and Save Money?

Creating new crimes and long punishments is still on the agenda – again – for Waco GOP Rep. **Charles “Doc” Anderson**, who this year continues his fruitless 2009 quest to make illegal the drug **Salvia divinorum**, a member of the sage family and the most potent naturally occurring hallucinogenic (House Bill 470). His dramatic attempt to get support for an all-out ban fell on deaf ears last session – in part because medical researchers find the substance promising for a number of therapeutic applications.

Following Anderson’s lead are Edinburg’s recent GOP convert Rep. **Aaron Peña** (HB 49) and colleague **Fred Brown**, R-Bryan (HB 108), who are proposing to ban one or more synthetic pot compounds. The rush to ban the substances, used to lace herbal compounds and marketed as “**K2**” or “**Spice**,” doesn’t mean researchers have proven harm; they haven’t. Yet if these folks have their way, possession of the not-pot could mean up to life in prison.

By contrast, several of the rational drug reform measures we’ve come to expect have not yet been filed – including a bill to downgrade penalties for **marijuana possession** or to create an affirmative defense for **medical** possession. But back already is San Antonio Dem Rep. **Ruth Jones McClendon**’s effort to legalize an anonymous **needle-exchange program**, a bid



that passed in 2007 as a pilot project before being sabotaged by Bexar County District Attorney **Susan Reed**, who said she would prosecute anyone who participated in the program for paraphernalia possession. In 2009, the measure died despite strong support from Sen. **Robert Deuell**, R-Greenville. McClendon has brought it back as HB 117 – in the hope that the fifth time will be the charm for this smart-on-drugs (and communicable disease) harm-reduction program that the Department of State Health Services has estimated could save the state millions in health care costs. Maybe that positive fiscal effect will finally resonate? – J.S.



Transportation

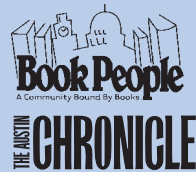
The Costs of Crackdowns

In 2009, the **Texas Department of Transportation** got slapped around by legislators in a Sunset Review that was never completely finished, and last week, a consultant gave the agency a restructuring plan that called for firing its top executives. The major problem facing the department and legislators: how to pay for future transportation projects. The state’s **gasoline tax** – still stuck at 20 cents per gallon – hasn’t been raised since 1991, and current projections show that the agency can’t possibly collect the revenue necessary to complete desired projects. Last year, Sen. **John Carona**, R-Dallas, had the temerity to suggest raising that tax – and for his gall, thanks to Lite Guv **David Dewhurst**, Carona is no longer chair of the Transportation & Homeland Security Committee. Don’t expect the new crop of tea partiers to look favorably upon similar suggestions this session, although we’re sure they’ll bitch plenty about awful Austin traffic. – L.N.

Take a Deep Budget Breath

The refrain of “greater transparency” is a constant among government watchers, and Austin Sen. **Kirk Watson** says he’ll act on it in the legislative session that began Tuesday. Saying that the state’s current money woes have been caused by previous budgets balanced through “debt, diversions, and deception,” Watson last week announced a proposal that would force the Senate to wait five days after the conference committee drafts the final budget before voting on it. “[L]egislators, advocates, the media, and other Texans generally have about 48 hours, if that, to sort through an almost 1,000-page document” before the final vote, which occurs at the hectic end of the session, Watson complained. “Taking five days – a business week’s worth of budget honesty – would help us all evaluate whether Texas, even in the midst of a tough economy, is maintaining its commitments to schools, health care for seniors, border security, and other moral priorities that will keep Texas economically competitive.” Last week, Watson issued a press release boasting support for the wait from both the **Texas Public Policy Foundation** and the **Center for Public Policy Priorities** – two think tanks on opposite ends of the ideological spectrum. – L.N.

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the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

CAN RON REIN IN THE FED?

The teabag-infused Republican takeover of the U.S. House has produced one big change that is already distressing GOP leaders, dismayed the tea party's corporate funders and discomfiting the elite bankers at the **Federal Reserve**. The change is this: **Ron Paul**.

This 75-year-old ultralibertarian from Texas has been in Congress for decades, building a consistent record of contrarian views and votes, some of which are quite progressive. He's been a vigorous opponent of U.S. military adventurism around the globe, for example. This has infuriated many in his own party, who have long dismissed him as an extremist nut.

But now, Paul has gone from being an irritating pest to holding real power. He's the new chairman of the subcommittee that oversees the Fed, America's central bank. He views this secretive, autocratic financial agency as a tool of the Wall Street giants, and he's even written a book called *End the Fed*. Even before taking over the committee, Paul has caused apoplexy among Fed officials and big bankers by saying that he'll push for a full, annual audit of the agency's financial dealings with the global elites.

How extremist, huh? Here's an outfit that furtively funnels trillions of dollars to private profiteers around the world, yet its transactions are not audited or open to public scrutiny. It's the system that's kooky, not Paul, and he's about to shine a bright light into the dark temple of the Fed, exposing an institutional collusion with Wall Street that enriches the few at the expense of the common good.

An unleashed Ron Paul not only scares the bejesus out of the bankers but also spooks the GOP political establishment, which is thoroughly marinated in Wall Street money. What fun! To keep up with the twists and turns, and to help Paul stand firm, go to www.ronpaul.org.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

WALL STREET CASINO GRAND REOPENING

Last year, Democrats claimed that the new **financial reform** law they passed had finally shut down the **Wall Street casinos** – those flimflam houses of high finance that wrecked our economy in 2007. But the new Republican majority in the House say they intend to undo the reforms this year. Why? Because, sob the GOP leaders, the law passed by those Democratic meanies was too harsh on the millionaires who run Wall Street, so they plan to loosen the restraints on them.

But wait, what's that sound? Why it's the clickety-click-click of Wall Street's roulette wheel, still spinning round and round. Despite the Democrats' reform and even before the Republicans' rush to give aid and comfort to the poor bankers, the games never really stopped.

Check out **Pimco**, for example, a huge Wall Street player that has been trying to lure hotshot investors into a new gambling scheme. It promises to buy bad mortgages from troubled banks and – hocus-pocus – turn them into a profitable windfall for Pimco and the elite gamblers who are putting up at least half-a-million bucks each.

The fund, with the peppy name of **"Bravo,"** looks like the same kind of razzle-dazzle that wrecked us three years ago. But not to worry, for Pimco has enlisted an all-star lineup of officials from the old Bush regime to endorse the hustle, apparently thinking they give it some respectability.

There's **Josh Bolten**, for example, a former **Goldman Sachs** honcho who was George W.'s chief of staff. While in the White House, he helped loosen Wall Street regulations to allow banks to become casinos. After they imploded, he dutifully helped orchestrate a taxpayer bailout for them.

Now Bolten is onboard with Pimco to keep the roulette wheel spinning – and no doubt he'll get behind the GOP's effort to reopen the whole Wall Street casino, not to mention the next bailout they'll want.

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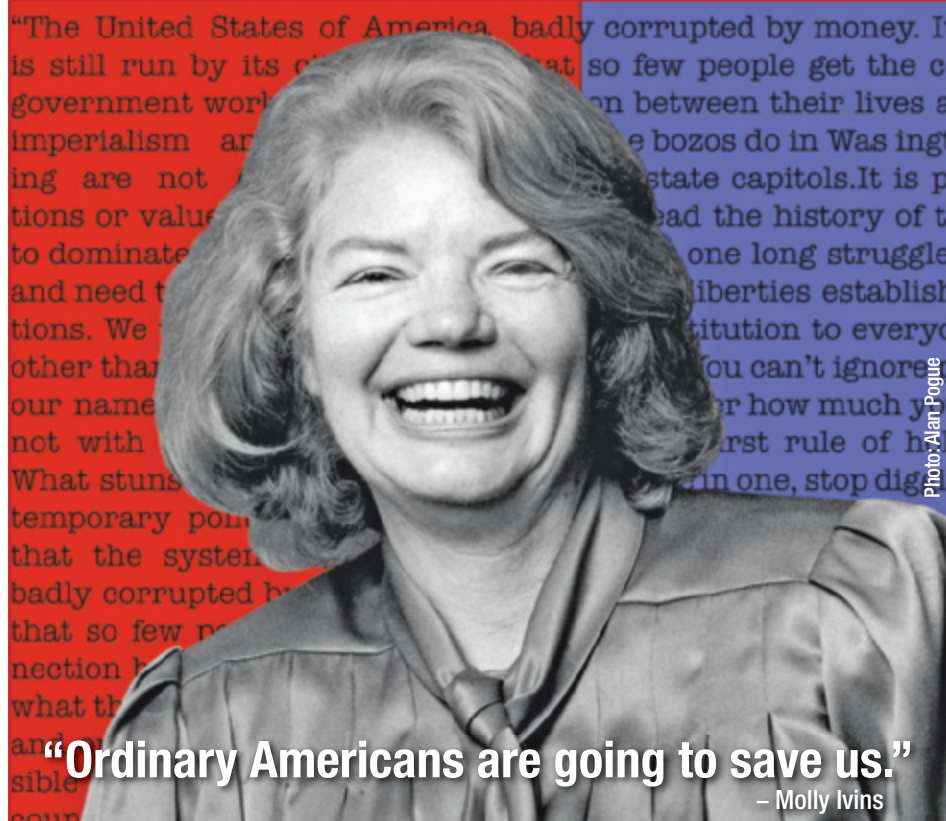
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‘WURA-NATASHA OGUNJI: THE EPIC CROSSINGS OF AN IFE HEAD’

Ancestors cross time
and space to seek us



Journeys figure heavily in Wura-Natasha Ogunji's world. In videos made by the Austin visual and performance artist, women journey from one edge of the frame to the other, sometimes crawling at a snail's pace across the hard land, sometimes speedily skittering a few feet above it like some erratic bumblebee. Her most recent videos imagine an Ife head – an ancient Yoruban sculpture – leaving its Nigerian home to connect with its descendants in the Americas. Ogunji has made her own journey this past year, to a place of prominence on Austin's arts scene: through the performance work *one hundred black women, one hundred actions* at last year's Fusebox Festival, created through a grant from the Idea Fund (see "On the Funding Front," right); followed by a production of her performance work *Incidents at the 22 Hotel* at the Off Center in August; and a solo exhibition at Women & Their Work, opening this week. Moreover, the artist will soon make her own epic crossing: visiting Nigeria, the homeland of her father, for the first time. "So much of the cultural information I've gotten has come through the creative process and through ancestral knowledge and body knowledge and cellular memory," says Ogunji. "So it's going to be very interesting for me to be on that soil, finally." Before making that journey, however, Ogunji will need to open her show and participate in *The Ancestor and the Archive*, an evening of short performances with other artists whose work is informed by personal and collective histories and ancestors. Next Thursday, Jan. 20, Ogunji, Amanda Johnston, Omi Osun Joni L. Jones, Annelize Machado, Matt Richardson, kt shorb, and Nicole Vlado will each perform a piece that is four to eight minutes long, then join in a discussion about how they approach creating experimental works that embody both the traditional and nontraditional. Ogunji spoke with the *Chronicle* about the origins of some of her journeys. – Robert Faïres

Austin Chronicle: What inspired your video work?

Wura-Natasha Ogunji: In 2007, I was in a residency in Spain. I was reading a lot about these crossings from Africa to the Canary Islands and across the Strait of Gibraltar, and I felt like I had a connection to these bodies, like if not for an accident of birth, I could have been these people trying to make these crossings. I was very interested in my relationship to the land and what we leave behind spiritually and physically and the impression that a person leaves on the earth. So thinking about people crossing the waters and what belongings they could carry with them and what marks they would leave made me want to kind of become those bodies but in relationship to the land where I was staying, which was north of Barcelona in the foothills of the Montserrat Mountains. It was also a place where people fled the dictatorships, so I was interested in the relationship of my black female body to this place in Spain, also given the historical context of migration and immigration and forced migration. That really inspired the first videos.

AC: How do they connect to what people will see at *Women & Their Work*?

WNO: I started to think about this iconographic Ife head and this question of what would it look like if homeland longed for us and came seeking us, if there wasn't any sense of absence or void in our lives in terms of needing to return to homeland, but the fact of our

existence and our lives really offered something to our ancestors – and to people who still lived in the places where we had originally come from. There's a place in Nigeria that's called Abeokuta, and it means "city under the rocks." It's a place where people fled to hide during the Atlantic slave trade. So I started to think about what if these artifacts were hiding amongst these rocks and these ancestors, and what would it look like for them, years later, to seek out their descendants in the New World and how would they make that journey? They could walk on water, or they could fly. From there, I made a series of videos trying to embody that struggle [of this being crossing the ocean] but also across this metaphoric history of trying to get somewhere and coming back and trying to get somewhere and coming back, and what would it mean to arrive or not quite arrive.

I'm very excited about sharing this body of work. In the past, I haven't been so overt about the use of family photographs, and in this work, I'm using a lot of images of my father, photographs of my father and of me. It'll be interesting to see what kinds of stories these images tell. They are me, but they also become these other beings in the works of art.

"Wura-Natasha Ogunji: The Epic Crossings of an Ife Head" runs Jan. 13-Feb. 17, at Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca. The Ancestor and the Archive will take place Thursday, Jan. 20, 7–10pm, at Women & Their Work. For more information, call 477-1064 or visit www.womenandtheirwork.org.

ON THE FUNDING FRONT

Grants in their stockings

➤ Two Austin visual-arts projects won grants this year from the Idea Fund, a program in which Houston arts organizations Aurora Picture Show, DiverseWorks ArtSpace, and Project Row Houses take funding from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and reallocate it to artists or artist groups across Texas. Panelists Bill Arning (director, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston), Kate Lorenz (executive director, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago), and Andrea Mellard (assistant curator, Austin Museum of Art) combed through some 200 applications before settling on this year's 10 grantees, each of whom will receive \$4,000 to create a project in 2011 (\$3,500 for the project and the rest for seed money to develop future work). The lucky Austinites are:

Boozefox (Drew Liverman, Jules Buck Jones, Michael Phalan, Scott Eastwood), for *Battleship Earth*, an iceberg-like sculpture/watercraft that will be "driven" around Lady Bird Lake, and

Andy Rihn, for *Texas' Longest Hammer Choir*, a short film recording 500 people hitting hammers together across abandoned railroad tracks, with the filmmakers, soundtrack musicians, and propulsionists in a custom-made railroad cart. Also, UT alumna

Buster Graybill, who created the award-winning 2009 Texas Biennial hit *Bait*

Box, won a grant for *The Progeny of Tush Hog* (I), a follow-up to the project he developed during

his 2010 residency at San Antonio's Artpace focused on a form of sculpture/hog feeder that he imagines as living creatures, adapting and mutating in the wild, much like feral hogs. For more information, visit www.theidea fund.org.



➤ Nine area arts groups will receive 2011 grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. In addition to the previously reported \$20,000 for the Vortex Repertory Company to support its production of the new musical *Sarah Silver Hands*, the following organizations received funding:

Austin Film Society: \$30,000 to support the presentation of nine curated film series, including contemporary documentaries; films by directors Agnès Varda, Jacques Demy, Derek Jarman, Peter Greenaway, and Ken Russell; and films from Japan and Hong Kong;

Badgerdog Literary Publishing: \$20,000 to support the publication, promotion, and distribution of the quarterly journal *American Short Fiction*;

Ballet Austin: \$20,000 to support the creation and presentation of a new full-length ballet based on Mozart's *The Magic Flute*, choreographed by Artistic Director Stephen Mills;

Blue Lapis Light: \$10,000 to support the creation and presentation of *Devotion*, a site-specific aerial dance performance over the Colorado River, with dancers performing on the river bank and suspended above the water;

Great Promise: \$10,000 to support the American Indian Heritage Festival and Powwow;

Mexic-Arte Museum: \$20,000 to support the exhibition "Young Latino Artists 16," to be curated by Alex Freeman of Artpace in San Antonio;

Tapestry Dance Company: \$10,000 to support the 11th annual Soul to Sole Tap Festival, with guest artists Jason Samuel-Smith, Jason Janas, Brenda Bufalino, Barbara Phillips, and Linda Sohl-Ellison; and

Zach Theatre: \$35,000 to support the second fully staged production of *The Book of Grace* by playwright Suzan-Lori Parks.

– R.F.

Press Forward

Two exhibitions capture printmaking's experimental drive

BY ROBERT FAIRES

Picture yourself in a laboratory outside of time where bustling among the beakers and Bunsen burners and computers and microscopes are Alfred Nobel, Louis Pasteur, Marie Curie, Enrico Fermi, Linus Pauling, and Ahmed Zewail. There you stand with some of the groundbreaking figures in chemistry, people whose persistent experimentation led to discoveries that deepened our understanding of this existence we share. And in this extraordinary space, you have the opportunity not only to appreciate anew their accomplishments as individuals but to see what they've achieved collectively on a continuum of centuries, in which one breakthrough has built on another over and over and over again, driving forward the development of the field. And because all these great chemists are there together, you get to catch them conversing with one another, to witness the interplay of ideas and influences among these innovators.

That's very much the feel that comes from viewing "Repartee: 19th-Century Prints & Drawings From the Blanton's Collection" at the Blanton Museum of Art and "Advancing Tradition: Twenty Years of Printmaking at Flatbed Press" at the Austin Museum of Art – Downtown, especially seeing them back-to-back. The two exhibits create a strong impression of printmaking as an art form in constant development, restlessly pushed forward by the experiments of its artists. Now, all artists experiment, and every medium in the visual arts can claim its own innovations through the past 200 years. But there's something distinctive in printmaking's ties to the mechanical and the chemical; its expansion of techniques corresponds to the advances in technology and science through the 19th and 20th centuries more than the traditional mediums of painting, drawing, and sculpture. It shares that with photography, and just as the Ransom Center's recent showing of photographs from its Gernsheim Collection documented that form's progress through experimentation with chemicals for developing images and changes in equipment, "Repartee" and "Advancing Tradition" reveal how printmaking has evolved

from monotone woodcuts and etchings on paper to vibrantly colorful works that may blend multiple methods – intaglio, aquatint, photogravure, monotype, screenprint, lithograph, drypoint – sometimes with assistance from digital manipulation and ink-jet printing, sometimes printed on alternative materials such as felt, and sometimes incorporating sculptural elements such as wood, string, or, as in the case of Liliana Porter's *Situation With Dog*, an inch-high plastic bridegroom.

Actually, that sense of progression was built into "Repartee," since the Blanton created the exhibition as a companion piece to "Turner to Monet: Masterpieces From the Walters Art Museum." Like that popular touring show, "Repartee" marks the changes in artistic styles and subject matter among Western European and American artists as cultural shifts took place throughout the 19th century. The rural increasingly gave way to the urban, the classical to the impressionistic, the ideal to the specific, the formal to the personal, and, some would say, the high to the low. The developments are easy enough to see as you move through "Repartee." Take, for instance, the approach to the feminine form: In the first room of the exhibit, you have Théodore Chassériau's *Venus Anadyomene*, a lithograph on chine-collé from 1841 after his successful painting. She's the romantic personification of beauty, with the gentlest of curves defining her slender nude form everywhere: her breasts, her hips, her belly, the nape of her



Edgar Degas' *La sortie du bain*

ist also depicts a naked female figure emerging from the water, but this one is an oddly graceless figure, caught half in, half out of the bathtub, awkwardly bent over and clutching the sides as she attempts to extricate herself. Our view is from the back, and Degas doesn't even let us see her face; rather, it's her blockish posterior that commands the center of the frame. In four decades, we've moved from woman as the feminine divine to the feminine mundane, from the ethereally flawless face to the earthbound, overfleshed ass.

dreamlike and primal – the feminine mythic. Taken together, the three prints – all by men, it's worth noting – create an intriguing conversation about how women have been and are viewed by society and how that has played out in their representation in art.

Such interplays can be found throughout "Repartee" and "Advancing Tradition" – say, the contrast in portraiture between J.A.D. Ingres' 1816 etching of Gabriel Cartois de Pressigny and Luis Jiménez's 1996 *Self-Portrait*, with the former cool and clean, a formality in the delicate line-work befitting the ornately robed cleric, and the latter raw and sketchy, a baroque tangle of lines that speaks to the artist's rough edges almost as much as the skull he shows through his features. In 1836, war could be celebrated in art with images of military prowess and order, as in Denis Auguste Marie Raffet's *La Revue nocturne* (*The Night Review*), with its lines of regimented cavalry, the horses spaced almost mathematically, the riders' swords held up at nearly identical angles – the very picture of martial discipline and conquest. But in the wake of the 1871 civil war in France, Édouard Manet represented the conflict with the image of a dead militiaman lying on a street before a broken wall, the thick, dark lines and heavy shadows on the still form in striking contrast to the soft shades of gray cloaking Raffet's valiantly charging troops – a shifting view of war from the heroic to the tragic. And in 1991, the shift went to the grotesquely comic, with Robert Levers' *Victory: The Celebration*

CONTINUED ON P.28



Woman by Bob Schneider

The two exhibits create a strong impression of printmaking as an art form in constant development, restlessly pushed forward by the experiments of its artists.

neck, the small of her back, the hollow behind her knee, the arch of her foot, and, of course, the long locks of wavy hair that cascade down her back like a waterfall. Chassériau's

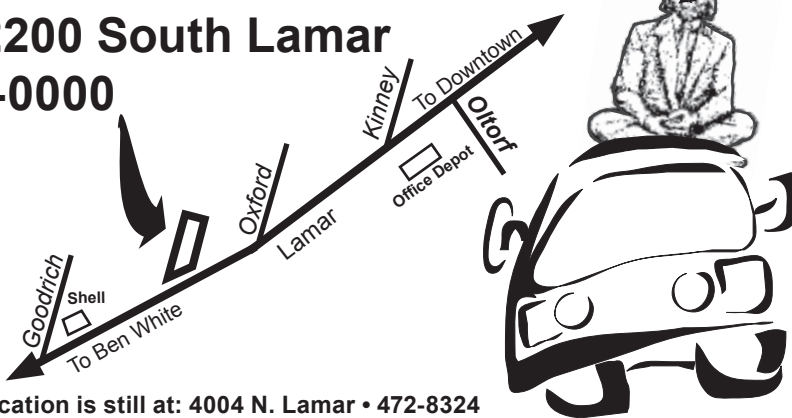
approach is softcore classicism, with the goddess' full-frontal exposure offset by her demurely downcast gaze and the downy edges and smooth shadings that are about as close as lithography can get to a soft-focus lens. Compare that to Edgar Degas' *La sortie du bain* (1879-80) in the fifth room. The impression-

The evolution of form and attitude goes still further when carried over to the Flatbed Press retrospective at AMOA. Some 120 years after Degas' prosaic portrait, Bob Schneider – yes, *that* Bob Schneider – took the female nude to the extravagantly fantastic, with most of the flesh seemingly cut away, exposing internal organs and networks of veins but also strange miniature figures, elaborately patterned shapes, a face behind the external face (or mask), and a snake attached to/coming out of one arm. Rendered in razor-thin lines, starkly graphic, the picture is something of a Boschlike underworld contained within a human outline, propelling woman beyond the celestial and the domestic into a realm

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J.A.D. Ingres' *Gabriel Cartois de Pressigny* (detail)



Luis Jiménez's *Self-Portrait*



commemorating the first Iraq War with a military man of some sort running toward three soldiers, all of them skeletons in uniform. Now the grimly thick marks of Manet's are describing cartoon figures, with grinning skulls and lines descending from above the frame to the figures' wrists and feet, suggesting the strings that manipulate marionettes. Here, what you're seeing isn't so much a progression in the sense of one attitude supplanting another – all three images just described still speak to some truth about war – but a moving current of perspectives, shifting with the events of history. And as in our hypothetical laboratory, the exhibitions enable us to take the long view, to see the continuum of responses and compare them to one another, for what they have to say and how they say it.

And how they say it is perhaps the greatest pleasure of "Advancing Tradition." The show is dazzling in its array of styles and modes of

expression: simple graphic representations of nature, human figures, dense abstracts, photographic images, rendered text, eye-popping in their colors and textures. And that's a testament not only to the artists themselves but to Katherine Brimberry and Mark L. Smith, the powers behind Flatbed Press. They might just as easily have named it Flatbed Research and Development Institute, because the printmaking facility has made it a mission to find ways to put the images in the heads of the artists they work with onto paper (or paper bags or felt or whatever surface they want). And that means being inventive, trying the unconventional, taking risks, experimenting. "Repertoire" shows us how that tradition was established in Europe and carried through the Industrial Age to the advent of modernism; it gives us the past. "Advancing Tradition" shows us how that tradition has been built upon in our own time and city; it gives us the present – but it doesn't

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Locomotive by Kenneth J. Hale

end there. What we can see in its two decades of expansive variety is an innovation engine that is still driving forward, a lab still working toward the next advance, the next new expression. It also gives us printmaking's future. ■

"Repertee: 19th-Century Prints & Drawings From the Blanton's Collection" runs through Jan. 16 at the Blanton Museum of Art, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard at Congress Avenue. For more information, call 471-7324 or visit www.blantonmuseum.org.

"Advancing Tradition: Twenty Years of Printmaking at Flatbed Press" runs through Feb. 13 at the Austin Museum of Art – Downtown, 823 Congress. A Flatbed Artist Reunion, including a Q&A with artists who have worked at Flatbed through the years, will take place Saturday, Jan. 29, 2pm, at AMOA – Downtown. And a concert featuring printmakers/musicians Bob Schneider and Terry Allen together on stage for the first time will be held Saturday, Jan. 29, 8pm, at Antone's. For more information, call 495-9224 or visit www.amoa.org.

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Sad But True (Well, Mostly)

Tapping real-life family crises for comedy in 'Drinking Closer to Home'

BY MARION WINIK

One of the hardest things about moving away from Austin was losing the community of writers of which I'd been a part since the days of Texas Circuit readings at Liberty Lunch back in the Seventies. But when I wound up in Baltimore in 2009, I found a scene like the one I'd been missing – a thriving, ungated community of writers and readers who comment on one another's work, get together for coffee, and share connections. It's common after literary events in "Bawlmer" to invite the whole audience to go out for drinks with the readers – you can't get much friendlier than that.

It was at one of these events that I discovered a writer named Jessica Anya Blau. I first heard her read a short story in a reading series held above a vintage clothing store, and her humorous take on warm, loving families with adulterer parents and drug-dealing children made me slap down the cash for her first novel, 2008's *The Summer of Naked Swim Parties*. It's a coming-of-age story set in Santa Barbara, Calif., in 1976; the 14-year-old protagonist doesn't get much help from her pot-smoking, free-loving parents as she navigates her first experiences with boys and booze.

The family dynamics, the hilarious dialogue sprinkled with Yiddishisms and profanity, the outrageous moments: These elements are even stronger in Blau's second novel, *Drinking Closer to Home*, to be released this month. *Drinking Closer to Home* brings together the adult children of the Stein family when their mother has a heart attack. The action flips between days spent in the hospital and flashbacks to their childhoods in the 1970s and 1980s.

The domestic relationships in the book are brilliantly rendered, a contemporary California version of Philip Roth. There's a scene in the 1970s where the grandparents, Bubbe and Zeyde, are coming for their annual visit. The entire family has mobilized to clean the house. Here's Mom and Dad:

Louise gathered up the sheets, a burning cigarette dangling from her mouth. She stared down at Buzzy, who was reading a crumpled piece of paper. Louise shifted the sheets to one arm, pulled her cigarette out, and pointed it at Buzzy as she spoke.

"Buzzy, fuck the trash, get the plants."

"She may have thrown out the receipt from when I had the oil changed on the car last week, I can't find –" Buzzy dropped his head back into the trash can.

"GET THE FUCKING PLANTS!" Louise lifted her cigarette hand and pushed a sweaty strand of brown hair out of her eyes. Portia was stilled by the suddenness of her mother's anger.



"Dad," Anna said, "You have to chop down the marijuana plants." She was the only one bold enough to insert herself into her parents' arguments. ...

Emery looked up from the Masterpiece Game; he was separating the painting cards from the value cards.

"We have marijuana plants?" he asked.

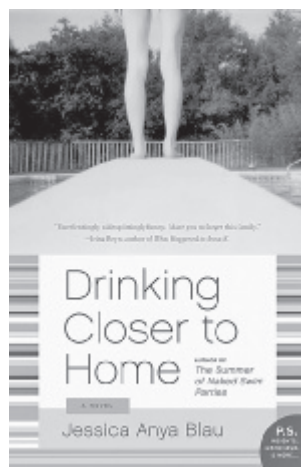
Blau has called this "a memoir with changed names," and the book includes a postscript section in which her real family comments on their fictional doppelgängers. "I think I got off easy," notes her father, which is saying a lot.

Not long after I fell in love with her work, I learned that Blau lives around the corner from me. Now her teenage daughter Ella babysits my daughter Jane, and her husband David has had the gall to beat me at *Scrabble*. So this morning she made me a nice bowl of oatmeal in her kitchen and we talked about the book.

Austin Chronicle: If it's a memoir with changed names, why not just write a memoir?

Jessica Anya Blau: So I could make it a more interesting story. For example, there's a scene where the family rents a vacation home on Fire Island. During their week there, the brother comes out of the closet, the sister reveals that she's cheating on her husband, and the dad announces he's going to leave their mom. All those things happened, but not at once. And the ending – well it could have happened that way, but it didn't.

AC: The title, *Drinking Closer to Home*, refers to a comment the grandfather makes after a pretty harrowing incident. That really happened?



JAB: In 1939, when my mother was 4 months old, my grandfather and grandmother put her baby basket in the back of their convertible and went for a nice fall drive. They had the top down, but the baby was all bundled up. They drove pretty far. They stopped at an inn in the countryside, leaving my mother asleep in the car. Then they started drinking and drinking and got so trashed they asked for a key and went up to a room. In the morning they remembered they had a baby. They ran down, and she was frozen. Literally. There was frost on her. So they rushed her to the hospital, she was in for two weeks, and she miraculously recovered, thanks to being one of the first civilians to be given penicillin. My grandfather's comment on this was that the lesson that he learned was always to go drinking closer to home.

AC: [in horror] He actually said that?

JAB: [hesitates] Well, I think he did. That chapter was one I wrote and rewrote so many times now that I'm not sure if my grandfather said it or not. ... Um, we could call my mother and ask her.

AC: Let's.

[A phone call to California is made.]

Jessica's Mom: The incident happened just the way she wrote it. They almost killed me, and then they spent the whole two weeks I was in the hospital in Florida. Only that penicillin saved me, thank God. They had to call them to come home when I got better. But no, he didn't say the thing about drinking closer to home. Jessica made that part up.

JAB: Oh, okay, I guess I did, then. Thanks, Mom. Bye.

AC: Well, your making it up is to me a natural extension of the coping strategy of the family in the book, in which the characters continually joke about things that are serious and painful, where humor is used as a survival skill.

JAB: I have a family that teases each other relentlessly. You go to rehab, you have a zit, you have an affair, they're all talking about it and asking you about it. And nobody will take anything seriously. You have a breakdown and you're depressed, everyone starts making fun of you. Eventually you start laughing.

My mom and dad once got in a huge fight. My father was screaming so loudly that my mother shouted, "Shut up, the neighbors are going to hear you!" "Fuck the neighbors!" my father screamed. So she told him again to shut up, and my dad ran outside – and by the way, we lived on a cul-de-sac full of really WASPy people, all with perfect lawns – and he was leaping up and down, screaming "Fuck the neighbors!" over and over. My mother, sister, brother, and I were standing on the porch looking out at him, completely horrified and embarrassed, but within days it was a joke. Even now, my sister makes him Chanukah cards and birthday cards with a little cartoon guy leaping up and down, and in his word-bubble it says, "Fuck the neighbors!" ■

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after a fashion

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

A SMOKING NEW ERA

While I was hanging out with some **famous movie-star types** recently, I was shocked to see them light up cigarettes in a crowded bar. Always respectful of the privileges that wealth and fame can bring, I thought, "Wow, not even I have the nerve to light up in a bar." I watched as the star's wife took a drag, then placed the cigarette in her purse. I hoped that her purse was lined with asbestos – I had horrifying visions of it bursting into flames, reminding me of the old story about **Tallulah Bankhead** at **Saint Patrick's Cathedral**: When **Cardinal Spellman** came down the aisle wearing purple and gold vestments, solemnly swinging a smoking censer, Bankhead reportedly said, "Dahling, I love your dress, but your purse is on fire!" My fears were all for naught, however, as it became evident that this glamorous couple was smoking these new **electronic cigarettes**. I'd heard about them before, but had no clue how they worked, how they felt or tasted, or how much they cost. His resembled a real cigarette – white with a tan filter and a red LED tip that lights up when you inhale – but hers was a sleek platinum-colored model with a purple LED tip. I was mesmerized. They both let me try them, and lo and behold, they tasted great. You can smoke these *anywhere* without fear of reprisal (except on airplanes, which have ridiculously but summarily banned them). It was like the good ol' days for smokers, when you smoked just about everywhere: gas stations, grocery stores, theatres, doctors' offices, elevators The **e-cigs** that I "smoked" were **SmokeStik** brand (www.smokestik.com), among the highest rated. What a thrilling surprise when a Christmas package arrived from my high-glam friends containing a large assortment of SmokeStik products. Ha-ha! The SmokeStik website relies on **Katherine Heigl** for a celebrity endorsement, but if the company had any indication of how my friends like their products, it'd have my friends' faces plastered all over its website. But for the time being, SmokeStik could settle for an endorsement from me: I think these e-cigarettes are incredible. The barrel of the "cigarette" is a rechargeable battery screwed onto a "filter" containing a **glycol solution** of varying amounts of **nicotine**. As you inhale, the air passes through a minivaporizer, allowing you to only inhale the nicotine vapor. There is no smoke involved; nothing burns. Upon exhaling, what comes out is an odorless, harmless, **water vapor**. There is no secondhand smoke, no ashes or cigarette trash. This gadget delivers the essence of what a smoker



The e-cigarettes charge up through a USB port and are ready for your non-smoking pleasure.

wants out of a cigarette without all the toxins and has a USB charger that hooks up to your computer. Brilliant. The stylish appearance of the SmokeStik is also a big plus. I haven't smoked a real cigarette in almost three weeks. I don't have to bundle up to run outside and smoke in the cold; I can lie in my **Craftmatic** adjustable bed and watch a movie while smoking a cigarette. I can smoke a cigarette immediately after eating. I can even control how much nicotine I take in by changing the filter. Some filters contain no nicotine at all for those that still have the compulsion to feel like they're smoking but without the chemical effects.

PROOF THAT TWITTERING IS DANGEROUS

Well, the story we've only whispered about before is about to play out in the media. Austin designer **Dawn Simorangkir** née **Denton** (also known **Dawn Younger-Smith** – husband **Mark Younger-Smith** is **Billy Idol**'s former sideman) is about to go mano a mano (**Twitter a Twitter?**) against none other than the hatchet-faced **Courtney Love** in a court of law – L.A. law to be exact. It seems that the former friends had a falling-out over payment for clothing designed by Simorangkir's **Boudoir Queen** company for Ms. Love (aka "**Her Heinous**" online), and Courtney took to Twitter to launch a wave of disparaging comments. Can the things Love wrote on Twitter and other online platforms be construed as defamation? And can Twitter, **Facebook**, **MySpace**, and other online communities be held to the same libel laws applied to news media? This is the first high-profile lawsuit holding a celebrity accountable for allegations made on Twitter. According to **The Hollywood Reporter**, Love's tweets allegedly branded Simorangkir "a drug-pushing prostitute with a history of assault and battery who lost custody of her own child and capitalized on Love's fame before stealing from her." Funny, you can imagine those same words being used to describe Love herself. The trial is scheduled to begin Feb. 6.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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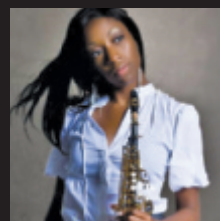


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Just when you think you've seen all that taquerias have to offer in this town, along comes Papalote, a taqueria of a different stamp that will no doubt help redefine Austin's taco expectations. Papalote is the newest endeavor from Sergio Varela, who also owns Azul Tequila, a favorite South Austin destination for reliable Interior Mexican cuisine. Though this tiny storefront cafe at the newly revitalized corner of Manchaca Road and South Lamar Boulevard is less than six months old, crowds already spill out the door.

Varela envisioned Papalote as a casual spot that would serve the sorts of treats he recalls from his youth in Tejupilco, in south central Mexico. The kitchen here eschews Texas taco standards such as *al pastor* and fajitas to highlight more complex creations balanced on the slow-stewed meats and vegetables in vibrant sauces that typify Interior Mexican cooking. Many of Papalote's dishes, such as the **tortas de coliflor** (stuffed with

fried cauliflower cakes, avocado, queso fresco, and cabbage) or the taco (with strips of poblano chiles, mushrooms, zucchini, and cream) are Varela's mother's recipes. Others come from recipes Varela has developed over years of working in kitchens.

On a recent visit, everyone at my table licked their fingers clean from the **guajolote en mole tacos** with big chunks of shredded turkey smothered in a deep-red *mole* that's a pitch-perfect blend of sweet, savory, and fire (all tacos \$3.25), and we slurped up the **rajas con crema** (strips of poblano in cheese and cream, \$5.99) with chips, spoons, and fingers. The taco with **stewed pork** suffused in a creamy, nutty *pipián* sauce spiked with *hoja santa* is another winner. Even a simple **fish taco** is well-seasoned, spilling over with fresh cabbage, avocado, and crumbled queso fresco.

Not limited to tacos, Papalote also offers a selection of **tortas** (\$5-8), **tostadas** (\$3.25), and some rarely seen-in-Austin Mexican street foods such as **sopes** (\$3) – thick fried masa cakes topped with beans, meat, cream, avocado, and lettuce – and **tlacoyos** (\$3),



Sergio Varela
of Papalote
Taco House

JOHN ANDERSON

fried blue-corn masa-and-potato cakes covered in red and green sauces and queso fresco to resemble a Mexican flag. Varela calls the food at Papalote "tacos urbanos." I call it yum! – Rachel Feit

Zinfandel - Two Great Wines for the New Year

The weather is cooler, the food is heartier, and it's the perfect time for America's great wine, Zinfandel. Not the sweet-as-cotton-candy pink stuff. I'm talking about the whopping, concentrated, opaque blockbuster wines fresh from California's top vineyards.

Zinfandel is a perfect wine for American foods, especially massive slabs of grilled beef, whether in the form of steaks or hamburgers. It also works well with casual foods like deep-dish pizzas, hot dogs, stews, or casseroles. For years, Zinfandel's other great advantage was its low price. Unfortunately, that benefit has slowly evaporated to the point that Zinfandel commands prices similar to Merlot or Cabernet Sauvignon. But there are still a few bargains out there if you know where to look.

Ghost Pines is a relatively new brand from the folks at Gallo. The **Ghost Pines Zinfandel** (\$15) reflects the modern style of Zinfandel, aiming for alcohol levels between 14% and 15%, which, ironically, is lower than what we saw

during much of the first decade of this century. This wine is 14.7% alcohol, which means the grapes are picked a little less ripe, lending it fresh, young fruit flavors.

St. Francis "Old Vines" Sonoma County Zinfandel

(\$18) is a fascinating wine, one worth tasting at every vintage. I've closely followed this wine for nearly 20 years, and, though it has seen its ups and downs, it has always been interesting. The last few vintages have been classic versions. The grape vines are between 50 and 100 years old and are dry-farmed (i.e., no irrigation). That process stresses the vines so that they produce tiny but powerful grapes. The result is a wine that is somewhat high in alcohol (currently 15.5%) and muscularly flavored. And if ever a wine could handle aging in 100% new American oak, this is it. The fruit flavors are so intense that the oak almost disappears, leaving a nice hit of vanilla and toast.

Both wines are available through better wine shops.

– Wes Marshall

wine
OF THE
week



Event Menu Jan. 15-30

► The third annual **Peace Through Pie** community celebrations held in conjunction with the Martin Luther King holiday take place over the next few days. (Visit www.peacethroughpie.org for more info.)

• **Pie contest and auction** at Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church (1725 W. 11th), Saturday, Jan. 15, 2-4pm

• **Peace Through Pie social and Peacemaking Circle** at the Victory Grill (1104 E. 11th), Saturday, Jan. 15, 10am-1pm

• **Phenomenal Women's Peace Through Pie auction and social** at St. James Episcopal Church (1941 Webberville Rd.), Sunday, Jan. 16, 1-2pm

• **Art Institute of Austin** open house with pie (101 W. Louis Henna Blvd. #100), Monday, Jan. 17, with tours at 9:30am, 11am, and 1pm.

► **North by Northwest Restaurant & Brewery** (10010 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 467-6969, www.nxnwbrew.com) continues its beer education series with another session of **Beer School**, complete with fascinating instruction and tastings. \$35 per person; reservations recommended. Saturday, Jan. 15, 11am.

► The International Culinary School at the Art Institute of Austin and Launch787 present **Sip & Savor Austin**, a two-week series of bargain culinary events and happenings at more than 40 venues around the city. See a complete list of participating businesses and calendar of events at www.sipandsavoraustin.com. Sunday, Jan. 16, through Sunday, Jan. 30.

► **Zax Restaurant & Bar** (312 Barton Springs Rd., 481-0100) hosts a five-course brewer's dinner paired with beers from Lagunitas Brewing Company. \$50 per person; reservations recommended. Tuesday, Jan. 18, 7pm.

► **24 Diner** (600 N. Lamar, 472-5400) hosts a five-course brewer's dinner with beers from Lagunitas Brewing Company. \$55 per person; reservation necessary. Wednesday, Jan. 19, 7pm.

► **Cannoli Joe's** (4715 Hwy. 290 W.) Executive Chef **Quirino "Q" Silva** presents his monthly cooking class, with a recipe booklet for the four-course meal and its wine pairings. \$35 per person; reservations necessary. Wednesday, Jan. 19, 6:30pm. – V.B.W.

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

It's amazing how much food news accumulates during the week I don't have a column! So, here's what's new. Check out the newest outlet of **Royal Blue Grocery** (609 Congress, 469-5888, www.royalbluegrocery.com), which just opened in a historic Downtown building. The large new store includes a commissary kitchen that will allow the grocer to increase production of "grab and go" food items such as prepared salads, sandwiches, soups, and meals. There's also an espresso bar, on-site beer and wine service, plus a select stock of paper goods, produce, dairy items, local artisanal foods, beer, and wine – open daily from 7am to midnight.

Asleep at the Wheel frontman Ray Benson wants to be known for finger-lickin' good food as well as hot guitar licks, so he partnered up with Texas sauce-master **Dan Jardine** to create **Ray Benson's Asleep at the Wheel BBQ Sauce**. Both the roadhouse and spicy flavors of the new condiment were launched last week at an event at Ray Benson's Roadhouse inside Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. Bottles of the sauce are currently available at H-E-B stores statewide, with more retail outlets soon to come, or order online at www.asleepatthewheel.com. I'll report back with opinions after we've had a chance to try out the samples at the office.

ThunderCloud Subs (www.thundercloud.com) has increased its sandwich empire to 30 stores with the newest outlet in Dripping Springs at 598 Hwy. 290 E. #230, in the H-E-B shopping center.

Longtime KUT contributor **Cecilia Nasti** has changed and expanded her signature *Growing Concerns* gardening segments to cover good food from the ground up. The new program is called **Field and Feast** (www.fieldandfeast.com) and is featured during *Folkways* on Saturdays at 11:55am and at the beginning of *The Splendid Table* at 11am on Sunday mornings. Be sure to listen in – January is soup month.

Chef/restaurateur **Parind Vora** was in touch to let us know that weekday lunch service begins at **Braise** (2121 E. Sixth, www.braiseaustin.com), this Monday, Jan. 17, from 11am to 2pm.

I finally had an e-mail exchange with **Ruby's Barbecue** (512 W. 29th, 477-1651) owner **Pat Mares**, who says she and her staff have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of community support after the holiday fire at the beloved campus-area barbecue joint. She asked me to tell folks that the fire damage was not extensive and they were back to smokin' good barbecue again very quickly. Good news all around.

Invitations have gone out for the coolest dinner parties in town – the 14th annual **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?** fundraiser to benefit **Project Transitions** on Saturday, Feb. 5. Seating will be limited at the 18 dinners, so make reservations as soon as possible. Tickets are \$100 per person, and all of the proceeds benefit the ongoing programs of Project Transitions. If you'd like to be added to the invitation list or volunteer to host a party next year, call the PT office at 454-8646. For a detailed list of parties and for reservations, go to www.projecttransitions.org/events/guess-who.html.

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When it first opened, Vino Vino's cuisine was definitely a backdrop to its incredible selection of wines available to drink on the premises or to take home and enjoy. But things changed in fall 2008 with the arrival of chef Esteban Escobar, who brings to the kitchen the same quality and dedication that owner Jeff Courington places on the wine list.

The menu is in a constant state of flux, as Escobar is a firm believer in using seasonal – and mostly local – ingredients, working with local purveyors such as Antonelli's Cheese Shop for cheeses and Farm to Table for produce and meats. Although the menu doesn't have dozens of offerings, it is nearly impossible to pick one dish over another, inviting you to return and try the other one next time. Escobar's offerings are complex and well-executed without being too froufrou or over-the-top and are designed with special attention to pair with a variety of wines. The experienced and professional staff is ready to guide you with the best pairing suggestions for wine or food. Since the wine list offers many little-known varietals and exciting blends, these knowledgeable and friendly folks never hesitate to offer you a taste before you settle on the full glass or bottle of your dreams.

Escobar and his staff pride themselves on making almost everything in-house. One fine example is the charcuterie plate (\$14), hands down the most thoughtfully arranged and beautifully garnished that I have ever had. Of course, the homemade selections change often; on our last visit it included a spicy (if a bit salty) andouille, pork rillettes, and a terrine of pork and sweetbreads, served with two kinds of house-made mustards and an eye-pleasing arrangement of pickled radish, fennel, haricots verts, and mustard seeds. I also love Vino Vino's approach to serving cheeses. Rather than the tired cheese plate with nuts and dried fruits, it makes cheese "dishes" that change as the chefs come up with new inspirations. Each cheese is served individually, with garnishes and complements that match and enhance its characteristics. For example, a generous portion of creamy blue Fourme d'Ambert comes with thinly sliced apples, ginger, and a balsamic reduction (\$8), and Marieke Gouda is

served with shallot confit, lemon, and olive oil (\$7). We enjoyed these as appetizers with glasses of crisp and toasty Flor Prosecco (\$10) and juicy Domaine Antugnac Pinot Noir (\$8).

The selection of small plates ranges from snacks like olives and fries to seasonal salads, from bison sliders with aged Vermont cheddar to seafood offerings such as a bowl of mussels with fries, white wine, tarragon, and aioli. The one dish people are swooning for lately (including us) is the braised veal cheek (\$12) – marinated overnight in milk, then braised with wild mushrooms and garnished with ricotta made from the milk marinade. This dish is so rich and spectacularly delicious that when asked to describe it, our server said she wanted to divorce her husband and marry the veal cheek.

We visited on a recent Sunday when Vino Vino serves paella beginning at 7pm. Coming from Mexico City, where paella is a traditional Sunday offering at many restaurants (and even supermarkets), I'm something of a paella snob. The most important component of this Spanish classic is the rice – the grains should be firm and separate, with a dry texture and the saffron's bright-yellow tint. Vino Vino's version was more like risotto: sticky, creamy, and slightly caramelized. But it tasted of saffron (even if the color wasn't right) and had meaty chunks of crispy pork, mussels, sea scallops, and chorizo – a great match for the Château d'Oupia Minervois Rose (\$8). For me, the star of the evening was the entrée special, a perfectly cooked lamb rack (\$30) with a savory chile *pasilla* reduction, radishes three ways (sautéed greens, roasted whole, and pickled slices), and fresh creamer peas. We matched it with a killer young Langhe Nebbiolo from Azienda Agricola Paitin (\$10) and the easygoing Montirius Côtes du Rhône. Dessert consisted of a spectacular lemon *pot au crème* with a citrus *tuille* (\$7) and an equally delectable, not-too-sweet goat cheese cheesecake topped with fresh orange segments (\$8). We chased these down with a wee glass of Elvio Tintero Moscato d'Asti (\$8), a perfect ending to a fun-filled evening.

Vino Vino is one of my favorite places for a relaxing and always positive experience. It hosts a lot of special events,



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

vintner appearances, and live music, and its happy hours are well-attended and animated, with discounts on wine, beer, and selected appetizers. Whether it's to meet friends over a glass of wine that is neither overpriced nor found on every other list in town or for a memorable meal with plenty of flavor and zero pretension, this cozy Hyde Park wine bar never disappoints.

– Claudia Alarcón

Cherrywood Coffeehouse

1400 E. 38½, 538-1991

Monday-Friday, 7am-12mid;

Saturday-Sunday, 8am-12mid;

weekend brunch, 10am-3pm

www.cherrywoodcoffeehouse.com

Restaurateur Ryan Marks recalls that he had his eye on the property where he now operates Cherrywood Coffeehouse from the time he moved into the nearby French Place neighborhood in the late Nineties. He watched various eateries pass through the building, from the post-fire incarnation of Pato's Tacos and a couple more Mexican eateries through Quack's Maplewood Bakery, each struggling and failing to succeed. Two years ago, Marks and his wife, Jen, finally made their move on the space they coveted, and Cherrywood Coffeehouse was created in February 2009. Things have certainly been on the upswing since then. Judging from the enthusiastic neighborhood support and the frequently full parking lot, the Marks have a hit on their hands. Cherrywood is a casual and comfy neighborhood joint with a friendly, welcoming vibe. The New Orleans natives proudly present Saints football on TV and will make your pooch at home on the patio. The sign outside proclaims "Real Food"



– and the kitchen delivers. Every neighborhood should be so lucky.

The menu is an inviting amalgamation of pastries, tacos, salads, sandwiches, burgers, and smoothies, as well as beer and wine,

enhanced with excellent coffee beverages using Fair Trade Ruta Maya coffee. Breakfast at Cherrywood is an anytime affair, and it also offers a wonderful weekend brunch. In addition to a selection of muffins, scones, and pastries from various local bakeries, the breakfast taco menu features several worthy choices. My daily go-to favorite during the recent busy holiday baking season was the Sol taco (\$4.39), a hearty behemoth with an omelet-like layer of eggs, savory black beans, sausage, crisp bacon, grated cheese, crunchy shredded potatoes, and green onions. One of these will get your day off to a righteous start. Vegetarians or folks with daintier appetites might opt for the Terra taco (\$4.39) with tofu or the Artist taco (\$2.77) with your choice of three ingredients from a long list. My current favorite brunch dish is a soul-satisfying bowl of low-country shrimp and grits (\$6.99) paired with an order of cinnamon-tinged *pain perdu* (\$4.60), but I've got my eye on the crawfish and eggs Benedict (\$8.99) for next time.

The lunch and dinner menu is currently weighted toward hearty sandwiches and burgers, although Ryan Marks says he and chef Kevin Jackson are in the process of developing some dinner specials that will debut over the next few

months. Meanwhile, you can't go wrong with the award-winning burgers (a 2010 "Best of Austin" Critics Pick) or a genuine New Orleans-style muffaletta (\$9.79 full, \$6.79 half), appropriately dressed with a generous serving of chunky olive salad, served with Zapp's chips. The sandwiches are built on French demi-baguettes from the Fiesta bakery just down the street, offering a good balance between a soft interior and a crispy crust for a satisfying sandwich experience. Seafood is a relatively new addition at Cherrywood, and I can highly recommend both the catfish and the shrimp po'boys (\$7.49 and \$7.99) complemented by the tangy house rémoulade and fries. It also offers platters of fried catfish (\$8.99), shrimp (\$9.99), and oysters (\$9.99) with fries and house slaw.

As pleased as he is with Cherrywood's current success, Marks sees his business as a work in progress. He eagerly describes improvements he'd like to make: changes to the interior decor, an exterior paint job, enhancements for the patio, and more new menu items. Considering how much I appreciate having this gem so close to my house, I'm all for its continued success. In fact, if Cherrywood adds a good beignet to the menu, I might be there every day.

– Virginia B. Wood

restaurant roulette

ESTIMATED MEAL COST PER PERSON

\$ <\$10 \$\$ \$10-25 \$\$\$ \$25-40 \$\$\$\$ \$40+

DOWNTOWN

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: LITTLE CITY This popular Downtown coffee shop, informally known as Itty Bitty City, has a vast drink selection and happy hour specials, as well as a top-notch bakery. 916 Congress, 476-CITY. \$

BARBECUE: LAMBERTS Offering steaks, chops, seafood, and barbecue, this 2nd Street District spot caught on fast, which may have something to do with the live music upstairs almost every night. 401 W. Second, 494-1500. \$\$

CAJUN/CREOLE: THE BOILING POT Sample fresh, boiled seafood of every variety: shrimp, blue crabs, and crawfish (in season), as well as boudin, gumbo, oysters on the half shell, and red beans and rice. 700 E. Sixth, 472-0985. \$\$

FINE DINING, FRENCH, TOP 10: AQUARELLE RESTAURANT FRANÇAIS With its quietly understated atmosphere, traditional French service, and preparations using fresh, local ingredients, this is a special-occasion place with china, crystal, and romantically dim lighting. 606 Rio Grande, 479-8117. \$\$\$

FINE DINING, SOUTHWESTERN, TOP 10: ROARING FORK The rustic decor – stone, metal, leather, and antlers – and hearty Western entrées with robust side dishes welcome carnivores. 701 Congress, 583-0000. \$\$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: CANTINA LAREDO Here you'll find daily fish specials, enchiladas of every sort, and steaks complemented by signature sauces. Sunday brunch includes migas and *chilaquiles*. 201 W. Third, 542-9670. \$\$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: MARIA MARIA Carlos Santana's Mexican eatery draws a crowd. The multiregional cuisines of Mexico shine here. 415 Colorado, 687-6800. \$

STEAK HOUSE: HOFFBRAU STEAKS A vestige of old Austin circa 1934 and an icon for generations, the Hoffbrau serves up steak, potatoes, and beer in a former feed store. 613 W. Sixth, 472-0822. \$\$

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE: LIZ'S GRILL Located in the Harris Branch General Store, Liz's has won over the locals with its homemade Mexican fare, but you can find barbecue and down-home specials as well. 11003 Harris Branch Pkwy., 278-0558. \$

BARBECUE: SAM'S BBQ stays open until 3am on Fridays and Saturdays, so if you hurry over you can still make it after the clubs close. Some say Sam's has the best chicken in town. 2000 E. 12th, 478-0378. \$

CAJUN/CREOLE: NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA'S CAJUN SOUL FOOD KITCHEN A proprietress as friendly as her food is good serves up huge portions of burgers and Cajun chow from a succinct menu. The dining room is communal and friendly, and Lola is a blessing. 1815 Rosewood, 474-5652. \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: PIZZA: RUDINO'S PIZZA & GRINDERS People rave about the grinders: New England-style toasted sandwiches with bread baked on-site. This place uses only fresh ingredients. 11521 FM 620, 258-4900. \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: RIO RITA Go here for sandwiches, empanadas, East Side Pies slices, and a full complement of your daily veggies in the Bloody Mary. It's a 2009 "Best of Austin" Critics Pick. 1308 E. Sixth, 524-0384. \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: ZANDUNGA MEXICAN BISTRO Mi Madre's sister restaurant is a more adventurous eatery with an ambitious menu full of intriguing takes on modern Interior Mexican cuisine. Small but well-designed wine and beer list. 1000 E. 11th, 473-4199. \$\$

JAPANESE: SUSHI JAPON The sushi is fresh, professionally prepared, and complemented by the draft Ichiban. Don't leave without tasting the black cod and yellowtail. 6801 N. I-35, 323-6663. \$\$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: CAFE 290 This Manor stalwart has taken traditional roadhouse food to a delicious new level. Try the green eggs and ham, but don't miss the comfort food for lunch and dinner. 11011 Hwy. 290 E., Manor, 512/278-8780. \$\$

TEX-MEX: DARIO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT Try the fajita omelet with grilled peppers, onions, potatoes, and beans, but don't overlook the rest of the menu or you'll miss the fabulous enchiladas. ¡Que rico! 1800 E. Sixth, 479-8105. \$\$

TEX-MEX: PACO'S TACOS Mueller denizens can make it a dog-walk to this new purveyor of breakfast tacos. 1304 E. 51st, 323-6206. \$

SOUTH

BARBECUE: GREEN MESQUITE BBQ This is one of Austin's favorite barbecue dives – it may look seedy, but the food is exceptional. 9900 S. I-35 Ste. M-700, 282-7100. \$\$

FINE DINING: PAGGI HOUSE An eclectic interpretation of American regional cuisine in a sophisticated, revamped setting makes this old favorite a Downtown destination. 200 Lee Barton, 473-3700. \$\$\$

INDIAN: INDIA KITCHEN Keep going back for the buffet, but try some things off the menu and you'll find Indian food for the aficionado. The tandoor-baked breads may be the best in town. 2410 E. Riverside Ste. D-4, 448-7773. \$

ITALIAN, TAKEOUT: ENOTECA VESPAIO Customers have come away raving about the delicious house-cured meats, the imported cheeses, and the marvelous pastries: handmade artisanal food at its finest. 1610 S. Congress, 441-7672. \$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: HILL'S CAFE Hill's Cafe has been around (off and on) since 1947 and is well-known not just for its chicken-fried steak and barbecue but for some big music in a small space. 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300. \$\$

TEX-MEX: EL MERCADO A very happy hour and 99-cent appetizers are nestled in this neon rain forest. 1302 S. First, 447-7445. \$\$

TEX-MEX: TORCHY'S TACOS The crowds gathering at all hours attest to the loyal following Torchy's has developed. Try the Little Nookies: deep-fried chocolate-chip cookies. 1311 S. First, 366-0537. \$

THAI: THAI SPICE Chefs Vicki Vicha and Orasinee Ratana-Apron bring the fire with a menu offering fresh, fast, and reliable versions of traditional Thai dishes. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S. Ste. E-590, 330-0203. \$\$

NORTH

BREW AND FOOD, SOUTHWESTERN: IRON CACTUS offers surf and turf with the added twist of Southwestern and Interior Mexican spices. The bar has more than 80 kinds of tequila, as well as a great beer selection. 10001 Stonelake, 794-8778. \$\$

CAJUN/CREOLE: MAMA ROUX The decor evokes casual Crescent City eateries, and the food doesn't disappoint. You'll find an affordable menu and generous portions of New Orleans favorites. 13000 N. I-35 #600, 490-1304. \$\$\$

CHINESE: DIN HO CHINESE BBQ has a menu long on fresh seafood and meat, all authentically prepared and priced right – try roast or Beijing duck, Chinese barbecue pork, whole roast pigs, hot pots, and more. Get it to go, or eat there. 8557 Research #116, 832-8788. \$\$

FINE DINING: MAIN STREET GRILL An elegant oasis whose warm wood and interior columns refer to its former life as a small-town bank, complete with a wine cellar in the intact vault. 118 E. Main St., Round Rock, 512/244-7525. \$\$\$

INDIAN: SHALIMAR RESTAURANT Sample Pakistani food that's second to none and a *karahi gosht* that'll really get your goat. You can try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. 9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700. \$\$

ITALIAN: ANDIAMO RISTORANTE This is good old-fashioned Italian – need we say more? Try the Linguine Luci Johnson. *Mangia!* 2521 Rutland, 719-3377. \$\$\$

JAPANESE: RYU OF JAPAN Open for the last two years, this place serves up all of your favorite Japanese specialties as well as fresh sushi and noodles. 11101 Burnet Rd., 973-9498. \$\$

VIETNAMESE: THANH NHI Nom on traditional Vietnamese pho, noodles, rice plates, and bánh mì in a convenient North Austin location, complete with the option of takeout. 9200 N. Lamar #104, 834-1736. \$\$

NORTH CENTRAL

BURGER JOINT: BURGER TEX Build your own burger at this longtime no-frills restaurant. Try the chicken-fried steak. 5420 Airport, 453-8772. \$

FINE DINING: VINO VINO Comfy decor, great wines, surprisingly good food, and reasonable prices keep everybody coming back. 4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282. \$\$

JAPANESE, KOREAN: KOREA GARDEN The sushi and Korean dishes are as good as ever. Try the *banchan* tidbits, noodle dishes, or grill Korean barbecue at your table. 6519 N. Lamar, 302-3149. \$\$

KOREAN: CHOSUN GALBI Located near Highland Mall, this neighborhood favorite serves up Korean barbecue as well as noodles, soups, and a good selection of vegetarian options. Try the Gal Bi Jjim. 713 E. Huntland, 419-1400. \$\$

PAN-ASIAN: MAMA FU'S ASIAN HOUSE AT THE TRIANGLE Eat in or take out; the ingredients are fresh, and the service is great. *The Triangle*, 46th & Guadalupe, 637-6773. \$\$

PIZZA: THE PARLOR HYDE PARK The jukebox may be different, but expect the same fresh, innovative pizzas at this outpost of the popular spot on North Loop. 4301-B Guadalupe, 323-0440. \$

RAW, VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: DAILY JUICE CAFE Looking for a healthy brunch? Everything on the menu here is composed of raw vegetable matter of one kind or another. 4500 Duval St., 380-9046. \$\$

TEX-MEX: FREEBIRDS WORLD BURRITO Fresh ingredients, the patented Bad Ass BBQ Sauce, and a fun, casual atmosphere make this place a must-try. Plan early for the lunch hour when the line is out the door. 1000 E. 41st #260, 451-5514. \$

UT

AMERICAN CAFE, BREW AND FOOD: HOLE IN THE WALL Music: It's not just for breakfast anymore. Beer is, though, with the selection you'll find here. Have a burger or Frito pie at one of the picnic tables in back. 2538 Guadalupe. \$

BREW AND FOOD: CROWN & ANCHOR PUB Enjoy the reliably delicious meat and veggie burgers and great seasoned fries with any of the reasonably priced beers on tap. 2911 San Jacinto, 322-9168. \$

CHINESE: SUN HING Kung Pao, General Tso's, and other American-Chinese standbys are served up inexpensively. 2801 Guadalupe #4, 478-6504. \$\$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: MEDITERRANEAN: FLYING FALAFEL & PO-BOYS The Haddad family serves up some Mediterranean/Cajun fusion that will make a regular out of you. Try the Chicken Mensef. 2001 Guadalupe Ste. A-1, 494-1400. \$

ITALIAN, PIZZA: MILTO'S This longtime UT-area institution serves both Italian and Greek specialties. The weekday lunch specials are both filling and cheap. 2909 Guadalupe, 476-1021. \$\$

JAPANESE: SUSHI NIICHI EXPRESS This no-frills sushi spot will satisfy your wasabi cravings. Be sure to stop next door for bubble tea at Momoko. 705-B W. 24th, 469-0499. \$\$

WEST

MIDDLE EASTERN: KISMET CAFE serves Mediterranean-American cuisine, Philly subs, gyros, and salads, making it a quick campus-area halal option. 411 W. 24th, 236-1811. \$\$

PIZZA: CONANS PIZZA Try thick, cheesy Chicago deep-dish by the slice or pie at the original location. The lunch buffet will fill your stomach without emptying your wallet. 603 W. 29th, 478-5712. \$

AMERICAN CAFE: NEWK'S EXPRESS CAFE offers sandwiches, pizzas, and salads, all made with fresh ingredients and served up in a fast, casual setting. 9722 Great Hills Trail, 795-7507. \$\$

BARBECUE: THE COUNTY LINE BAR-B-Q This place will bring you a big platter of sweetly sauced beef ribs, tender brisket, and peppery sausage with all the trimmings until you tell the waiter to please stop. 6500 Bee Caves Rd., 327-1742. \$\$

CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINA GRILL & SUSHI BAR offers normally priced Chinese food that manages to surpass the mundane, sometimes by a good bit. Vegetarians, try the eggplant in garlic sauce, but make sure you specify "without pork." 7858 Shoal Creek Blvd., 302-4600. \$\$\$

FINE DINING, SOUTH AMERICAN: EL ARBOL Try the icy, sweet caipirinha – the house specialty made from cachaça (cane sugar rum), lime, and sugar – then delve into steaks, grilled meats, and empanadas, as well as lesser-known Argentine favorites such as *matambre*, a flank steak pin-wheeled with spinach, carrots, and egg. 3411 Glenview, 323-5177. \$\$

INDIAN: SAROVAR INDIAN CUISINE This North Austin restaurant offers the most extensive Indian menu in the city with pages of North and South Indian specialties. 8440 Burnet Rd. #100, 454-8636. \$

JAPANESE: FUJIYAMA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE & SUSHI BAR serves up Japanese surf and turf with myriad options for sushi and teppanyaki, popular tableside hibachi-grilled meats. 4815 W. Braker #580, 795-8333. \$\$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: TINOS GREEK CAFE is Northwest Austin's gift to the Greek culinary gods. Great prices and portions, served from a cafeteria line, with oodles of choices for carnivores and vegetarians alike. 13450 Research, 336-5999. \$\$

PIZZA: REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE The drive up Research may be tedious, but Reale's is much closer than the East Coast pizzerias that it accurately approximates. 13450 Hwy. 183 N., 335-5115. \$

LAKE

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: ATE. CAFE The sandwiches, salads, sweets, and croissants are the best around. 2127 Lohmans Crossing #310, Lakeway, 512/263-4933. \$

BARBECUE: PEETE MESQUITE BAR-B-Q This full-service barbecue joint serves all of the categories: brisket, ribs, sausage, chicken, pork steak, turkey, and chopped beef. It's all done rotisserie-style in mesquite-fired cabinet smokers. 2407 Hwy. 281 N., Marble Falls, 830/693-6531. \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: LOS PINOS RESTAURANT Tex-Mex with a bit of Southwestern cuisine mixed in for flair. Be sure to try the fish *borrachito*: tilapia swimming in chipotle cream sauce, corn, and mushrooms. 4919 Hudson Bend Rd., 266-3231. \$

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SCREENS

OWNing It

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

I have a love/hate relationship with **Oprah Winfrey**. As a woman of color, I want to be happy that a dynamic, African-American woman is not only doing well but is a major power broker in the media world. However, most of the time, I feel totally out of touch with the woman and the world she caters to. Case in point: The **Oprah Winfrey Network**, otherwise known as OWN, launched last week. The network's mission statement mirrors her oft-stated advice to "live your best life" – good advice for anyone – but, from the get-go, it was clear that my life is not the life she imagines her audience living. After looking at what was offered on premiere day, I came away with these assumptions that it seems OWN has about its typical viewers:

They have money.
They have children.
They have no self-control.

Fame is valued, and the famous have something to teach us.

Many of the OWN series I viewed were derivative of series seen elsewhere. (They included *Enough Already!*, a show about reforming hoarders, and *Master Class*, a first-person, autobiographical, "how I made it" series – the episode I saw featured rapper Jay-Z.) That's not surprising. Everyone steals from everyone else, reconstitutes a product or idea, and delivers it in their distinctive packaging. In the case of OWN programming, that means content is drenched in relentless cheerfulness and/or a sense of determination, ground with a large dose of earnestness, and presented in a safe, easily digested morsel.

There's been much speculation about how the network will do. Is Oprah stressed out? Has she finally reached, in the words of the Peter Principle, her level of incompetence? I suspect Winfrey and her network will do just fine because, if nothing else, Oprah Winfrey is the Queen of Canny Timing. She could not have predicted the horrendous events that took place in Arizona last weekend, but the appearance of OWN and its chipper view on life came just in time. Perhaps what Winfrey has always intrinsically known is that positive, reinforcing thoughts and ideas are always in demand; these days, they are in demand with a renewed urgency. In the past, people may have sought solace in religion, and many still do. But in a time when faith and religion have become a foundation for hate and fearmongering for some (driving many thinking people to declare themselves

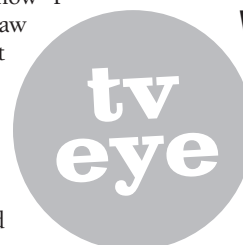


Austin's Zach Anner in one of the YouTube videos that made him an Internet phenomenon and fan favorite for *Oprah's Search for the Next TV Star*

atheists or adopt the "I'm spiritual" label), a network like OWN, with its veneer of higher thinking that is not too intellectual yet a few shades above greeting card, may be just the thing for restless folks who find themselves fearful in an ever more fear-inducing world.

Of note: Austinite **Zach Anner** is among the final 10 contestants vying for the opportunity to host his or her own show on OWN. See how he does on *Oprah's Search for the Next TV Star*. This week, Anner and the other contestants get makeover advice from guest mentor **Vera Wang**. New episodes of *Oprah's Search for the Next TV Star* air Fridays at 8pm. Check your cable carrier's listings.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?



Showtime trotted out two new series last Sunday with a most peculiar marketing strategy. Posters would have you believe that **Matt LeBlanc** (*Friends*) and **William H. Macy** (*Pleasantville*) were the stars of *Episodes* and *Shameless*, respectively, but that's misleading. *Episodes* features **Tamsin Greig** and **Stephen Mangan** as a writing team and married couple whose successful British TV series has been optioned to be re-created in the U.S. LeBlanc barely appears in the premiere episode, and while it's clear he will play a larger role (as the big-name American actor the couple are forced to cast against their wishes), he is not the center of this very funny, deeply cutting look at the Hollywood TV-making machine. As for *Shameless*, it's the large Gallagher brood (including **Emmy Rossum**) who are at the center of this dramedy about a drunk (Macy) whose children use their wits to overcome his nightly blackouts, keep the house up and running, and deal with their own issues. *Episodes* airs at 8:30pm followed by *Shameless* at 9pm.

As always, stay tuned.

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E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com.

screens



Lena Dunham

JOHN ANDERSON

SIZE MATTERS

'Tiny Furniture' opens AFS' Best of the Fests series

BY KIMBERLEY JONES

The term "festival film" can be something of a brush-off, a ghettoizing shorthand signifying a film is too small, too unstarry to have much life outside of the festival circuit. But the Austin Film Society couldn't have made a savvier pick to kick-start its new Best of the Fests monthly series than Lena Dunham's *Tiny Furniture*. Yup, it's small and mostly peopled with unknowns, unless the who's who of the insular New York art world is on the tip of your tongue (Dunham's mother, the artist and photographer Laurie Simmons, co-stars). But since *Tiny Furniture*'s debut at the 2010 South by Southwest Film Festival (where it won the Jury Award for Narrative Feature), the 24-year-old filmmaker has become an object of interest, speculation, and Internet bitchery; *The New Yorker* profiled her in November, and just last week she had an HBO pilot (exec produced by Judd Apatow) picked up to series.

Tiny Furniture is remarkable for both its ordinariness and its expertise. It's the rare mumblecore film steered entirely by a woman, but it

bears most of the hallmarks of the genre – nonactors, a superlow budget, and the defining navel-gazing scope (but not a no-aesthetic; shot by Jody Lee Lipes, it actually looks quite good). Dunham, a recent Oberlin College graduate, plays Aura, a recent – you guessed it – Oberlin graduate who returns to her artist mother's loft in Tribeca, N.Y., postcollege. She's a YouTube savant, underground-famous for some arty, exhibitionist videos; newly dumped by her "male feminist" boyfriend; and utterly unsure about how to make her mark in the world or, more pressingly, how to make enough money to move out of Mom's comfy environs. She gets a job as a restaurant hostess, surely her first stab at gainful employment; she's so impressed with the accomplishment, it becomes her go-to proof that she is in fact making strides toward self-sustaining adulthood, even as she raids Mom's freezer and wine rack. Along the way, she becomes embroiled in simultaneous crushes with two blowhards, jerky in different ways, but with the same end product.

It's a little astonishing – and exhilarating – that Dunham takes no pains at all to paint herself in a flattering light, even in material so nakedly autobiographical. Her Aura is a whinger and a layabout, and the fact that she comes from money could steel an audience against her. But, refreshingly, there's no neat arc to Aura's halfhearted self-seeking; what we're witness to is not the triumph of self-actualization, but the honest, sometimes ugly fumbling along the way. Her character is such an unusual presence – charming and aggravating in equal measures, and un-self-consciously in undies when size 6 is called plump by movie standards – that it's impossible not to cheer her for her bracingly true, if privileged, portrait of that bewildering maw between graduation and what comes after, in an up-to-the-minute accounting by a woman only barely removed from the experience.

"I think there are inklings that [Aura] was a self-aware person before," Dunham told the *Chronicle* when she was in town for SXSW last March. (See "Portrait of a Breakout Artist," March 19, 2010.) "That she has had that sort of self-knowledge in the past and that she's a little bit blinded by her change of circumstance." The happy postscript? "[I]n about six months she'll make a movie about it." ■

The Austin Film Society's Best of the Fests series screens Tiny Furniture on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 7pm, at the Alamo Village. See www.austinfilm.org for more information.

film
flam

BY KIMBERLEY JONES

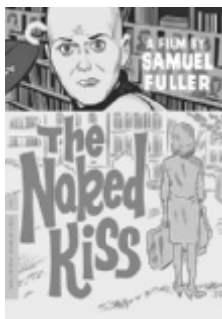
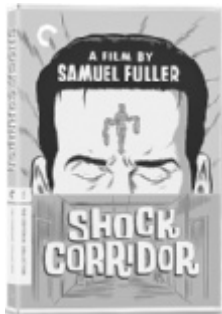
Yes, we know, 2011 is but days old, but let's talk 2012. That's when the **Austin Film Society** acquires the National Guard Building at Mueller – September 2012, to be exact – and the planning is already under way. To that end, AFS hosted a **Creative Media Hub Town Hall** on Jan. 6 – part pitch session, part fact-finding mission. Ideas and opinions were solicited from the local TV, film, and gaming communities about how exactly AFS should utilize the space – two soundstages, storage, and offices, totaling 73,000 square feet. High on the priority lists of those at the meeting? Sliding-scale rentals, post-production facilities, and common-use areas. Also a hot topic was who exactly the facilities would be geared toward – local mediamakers, out-of-town talent, or a mix of the two. "Incentives," too, was a buzzword there – and everywhere else it seems, as the future of the state incentives seems increasingly dicey, a topic the *Chronicle* will be tackling in coming weeks... If you weren't glued to the TV on Wednesday, then you probably missed spokesperson **Faith Hill** on the *Today Show* and *Late Night With Jimmy Fallon* talking up "Espwa," a short film about Tide's Loads of Hope program in Haiti, which aimed to overhaul the ravaged laundry facilities at the biggest hospital in Port-au-Prince, where the medical linens and scrubs were all being cleaned by hand. The company behind the film is the Austin-based Flow Nonfiction, a collective founded by documentarian **David Modigliani** and his *Crawford* collaborators **David Rice** and **Matt Naylor** with the objective of making "branded content for socially conscious companies." The film will have a special screening during the Sundance Film Festival, but you can watch it now at www.facebook.com/tide... And speaking of film fests, the **South by Southwest Film Conference and Festival's** schedule has gone live. Included is the **Ain't It Cool News** 15th Anniversary panel that Head Geek **Harry Knowles** hinted at via Twitter last week; *AICN* will also host a secret screening that, given HK's hefty Rolodex, will be a must-attend. Other new developments include the addition of four new screening venues this year: the historic State Theatre on Congress, the Bob Bullock Museum's Rollins Theatre, and single screens at the Regal Arbor and Westgate theatres, with the last two intended to help ease Downtown congestion and better cater to native Austinites. Expect more SXSW news to come down the pike soon. In fact, you might want to mosey on over to the Screens blog, Picture in Picture (austinchronicle.com/pip), right now. ■

Comment/complaint box:
filmflam@austinchronicle.com.

dvd watch

'SHOCK CORRIDOR' AND 'THE NAKED KISS'
Criterion Collection, \$29.95 (each)

Sam Fuller had the inside scoop on American culture. The filmmaker (and former newspaperman and pulp-fiction author) understood that, for all our country's lofty beliefs in freedom, equality, and new beginnings, we were also an uptight bunch who frequently fell short of our ideals. Fuller's filmmaking cuts to the heart of the contradictions that exist between our thoughts and actions. In fact, the exposure of the paradoxes and hypocrisies that govern our lives as a nation can be seen as the crux of all of Fuller's films. At the peak of his filmmaking career in mid-20th century America, we were a people who tended to keep our moral dichotomies tucked away from public view. Fuller brought our tacit racism, mob mentality, and holier-than-thou self-image into stark contrast with the realities of American life as he saw them. And he did it with gloves off, in a punchy, dynamic manner that could be as



lurid, sentimental, and sensation-alistic as the tabloids on which the young reporter cut his teeth. Fuller remained a newsman to the end.

There are hardly two better films to demonstrate Fuller's grip on America's inherent paradoxes than 1963's *Shock Corridor* and 1964's *The Naked Kiss*, both of which have been newly restored and reissued in handsome packages by Criterion. In *Shock Corridor*, a journalist who is investigating a murder and seeking to win a Pulitzer Prize has himself committed to a mental hospital as a patient. His undercover ruse backfires when he is driven mad in the process of uncovering the truth. His hubris is his downfall. While in the hospital, the reporter finds his witnesses, each one insane as a result of trying to reconcile America's hypocrisies. In one of the supplementary interviews included on the disc,

Fuller describes the central motif of the hospital corridor as the "corridor of the United States." That corridor is ravaged by the flood of diseased minds in the film's final sequence during which the hallway is literally soaked in the waters of an unleashed storm.

If the end of *Shock Corridor* lived up to the promise of its title, the opening of Fuller's next film, *The Naked Kiss*, was even more shocking. Quick and wild point-of-view shots drop us into the film as a prostitute is pummeling her pimp with her clutch purse. It is one of the most unnerving openings ever put on film. The woman moves to another town and wants to remake her life. She takes a job as a nurse's aide at a children's orthopedic hospital and meets the man of her dreams – a rich scion of the town's founder and the owner of the naked kiss, the sign of a pervert. Only later does she discover he is a child molester, and with that truth, her dream of a new beginning disintegrates.

While the extras on *The Naked Kiss* DVD include interviews with Fuller, which offer some of the cigar-chomping flavor of the man and his manner, the *Shock Corridor* disc contains the 1996 film *The Typewriter, the Rifle & the Movie Camera*, a delicious portrait of Fuller as expressed by some of his biggest fans: Tim Robbins, Martin Scorsese, Jim Jarmusch, and Quentin Tarantino. Contemporary reflections by Constance Towers, who starred in both films, are also featured on each disc. Among other essays and highlights, the most unexpected treat is the artwork by *Ghost World* cartoonist Daniel Clowes. When it comes to Fuller, the unexpected is the norm. – Marjorie Baumgarten

Bloody Beautiful Illusions

Alejandro Jodorowsky, surrealism's *topo sangre*, on Truth, Beauty, and the Internet

BY MARC SAVLOV

When Chilean filmmaker/writer/artist Alejandro Jodorowsky turns 82 on Feb. 7, he'll have the distinction of being, insofar as we know, the eldest statesman of surrealist filmmaking. His breakout film, 1970's visually kaleidoscopic, narratively ambitious *El Topo*, inverted and eviscerated the dying spaghetti Western, taking a moribund genre and infusing it with a mystical madness and spiritual longing that Sergio Leone and his followers had only hinted at. (It also garnered enthusiastic praise from John Lennon and a young David Lynch.)

Jodorowsky's follow-up, *The Holy Mountain*, cemented his name as a cinematic synonym for dreamy metaphysical nightmares and led directly to an ill-fated attempt at creating a 14-hour adaptation of Frank Herbert's *Dune*, which was to feature both Orson Welles and Salvador Dalí. (If only.) But it was *Santa Sangre*, his 1989 masterpiece of oedipal desire and blood-drenched disfigurement within and without a freakish, Fellini-esque *cirque perdu*, that won him the allegiance of a whole new generation of cult film fanatics who recognized it for what it was: art for art's sake. (The Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz will host a rare 35mm screening of the film on Jan. 19.)

Twenty-plus years later, *Santa Sangre* is finally getting a digitally remastered, Jodorowsky-authorized, double-disc DVD/Blu-ray release from cult boutiques Severin Films. It's been a lengthy and labyrinthine crawl into the sunlight for "the mole," however. Jodorowsky's filmic curriculum vitae is littered with abandoned or perpetually stalled projects, including his most recent near-miss, the epic "spaghetti gangster" film *King Shot*.

The *Austin Chronicle* spoke to Jodorowsky from his home in Paris about his circuitous career, the nature of his often puzzling art, and his future filmmaking plans.

Austin Chronicle: What exactly happened to your much-publicized film *King Shot*? That was announced several years ago as being ready to go into production – with Nick Nolte, Marilyn Manson, Udo Kier, Asia Argento, and Santa Sangre producer Claudio Argento attached – but it never materialized.

Alejandro Jodorowsky: That did not happen because of the producers. They had my script, but they wanted a more industrial product, and myself, I am not so industrial. [The producers] no longer believe in the pictures now, they believe only in the product, how do you say? A new "mission of movies," like a business, *only*. Then, I could not raise money after that point. But it is not over. I am always trying to make a picture. *Always*. Until the end of my life I will do that. You come really near sometimes, and then suddenly something happens. The politics, the world, the crisis.

AC: Are you still planning to make *Son of El Topo*?

AJ: I had Russian investors for the *Son of El Topo*. They invested some money, and I worked for three months with them making the script, making *everything*, and suddenly they disappeared, like the spirits! Until today, it has been six months and I have no news from them. They disappeared, and I don't know what happened, but they are not there. Maybe the extraterrestrials took them to another planet, maybe they were taken by the Mafia, I don't know.

AC: Despite the many obstacles you've encountered throughout your career, you've managed to create and sustain a stunningly personal body of work that ranges from film to theatre to graphic

novels to your own complex spiritual beliefs ["psychoshamanism"]. Now your work is finding and inspiring an entirely new generation online. Does your ever-expanding influence surprise you? Or was that the plan all along?

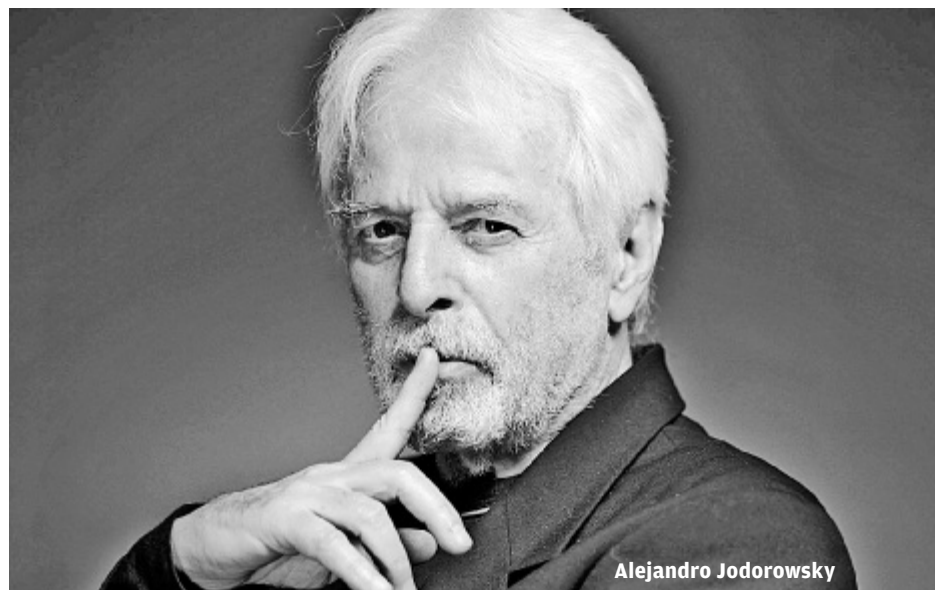
AJ: Throughout my life I have always made my pictures without the intention to make money, that must be very clear. For me, it was never business. It was an extension of my soul. The producers want the money, but myself, I want only to work, like the person who does the decor or the electrician. Now I am trying to do my next picture, *The Dance of Reality*, which is also the title of my autobiography, with the goal to lose money! Now they make pictures simply to make money. Five-hundred million dollars! Incredible! I am tired of that, and so I will give this picture for free on Internet.

I am trying to give an experience that is useful, that will help you to have a more conscious life. That is what I am searching for in my art, in my images. Pictures are images, no? At the moment, I am seeing a lot of old movies, silent movies, and I have discovered again the cinematography and the tricks that they are using because there are no words, just the beautiful images.

AC: What silent films, specifically, have you been watching?

AJ: Now I am interested in Murnau. You know F.W. Murnau? I'm seeing all the pictures of his now. Also Tod Browning. They made fantastic movies. And, of course, Buster Keaton.

AC: I remember a number of walkouts while watching *Santa Sangre* at the Dobie Theatre here in Austin during its initial run. Two decades on, do you think the reaction will be at all different?



Alejandro Jodorowsky

AJ: Pictures are like food. If someone offers you food, you take it, you eat it. All of my pictures, my theatrical plays, my books, they go out into the world and they change people. I do not want to speak too highly of myself, but my pictures are very mystical, you know? They are like big bells. *Boom ... boom ... boom*. They wake [audiences] up and [audiences] say, "Why do you do that?" And I say to them, "Because you were asleep!"

AC: The opening of *El Topo* has a wonderful line: "The mole digs through the earth seeking the sun, but when he reaches the surface he is blinded by the sun." As a multidisciplinary artist, have you ever been blinded by that metaphorical sun? Truth and beauty are often at odds with each other in your films.

AJ: I will tell you a story. There was a Tibetan master who said, "Nothing is real, everything is an illusion." One day, his disciples come to him and tell him that his son, his only son, is dying, and he begins to scream. The disciples ask: "Master, why are you screaming like that? Your son is an illusion." And the master says, "Yes, but he was the most beautiful of all the illusions."

I think that today we can not know the true beauty of things, but we continue to search for our own beautiful illusions, the most beautiful thing in our life. Some people call it the philosopher's stone; religion calls it god; the more elemental person calls it love; the political person calls it liberty. But every one of us has the goal to find our most beautiful illusion. Those illusions that are the movies you have watched your whole life are worth the happiness of the most beautiful illusion.

Myself, I am blinded to truth. I cannot know truth. It's impossible. It's too big for my mind.

AC: Thanks to the Internet and the digital revolution, essentially anyone with the inclination can make a movie today and get it seen,

even if the world of traditional distribution is falling apart –

AJ: That world is not falling apart. That world is still developing and changing. It is easy to think that that world is in trouble when the old things are replaced, but don't forget that there are new things that are replacing them. Myself, I am working intensely with the Internet. Every day I [draw] a picture and write, in Spanish, on the Internet. I put in there poetry, philosophy, *art*. Because of that I have an enormous amount of followers now. The Internet was not designed for that, but you can use it, anyone can use it, for art. That is why I want to make a picture for the Internet, because it's a new way to express yourself. It is the new way, not like television, not like theatrical movies, not in theatre. It is there, on the Internet.

AC: You've invested so much time over the course of your career in projects that fell apart or took very circuitous routes to finding an audience. Looking back, are you satisfied, artistically or otherwise, with the trajectory of your career thus far?

AJ: Satisfied? I am happy, yes. That takes two things, to be happy. One, to be yourself, what you are, not what the other person wants you to be. Then, realize that there is nothing for you that is not for the others also. That is important. A life without competition. Happiness is the end of competition, the end of comparing yourself to the other. If somebody gives something to you, something you didn't ask for, you need to receive it. You give me questions, I discover answers. By myself, I have nothing to say. ■

Severin Films Presents: *Santa Sangre* screens at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz (320 E. Sixth) on Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 6:30pm. Severin Films will release a DVD/Blu-ray remastered version of the film on Jan. 25. You can read Alejandro Jodorowsky's blog – en Español – at www.planocreativo.wordpress.com.

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Red River Roundup

The most memorable moments of Free Week for OTR also happened to be the most destructive: **Shells'** bassist **Michael Caviness** throwing himself into the drum kit at **Beerland**, **Shitty Carwash's** **Joe Pennenbacker** hurling his guitar up a flight of stairs at **Mohawk**, and **JJ Ruiz** doing the exact opposite inside **Emo's as Wild America** wrapped up its final club show. From the taunting provocation of **Elvis to Flesh Lights'** blitzkrieg garage-bop, local acts were going for broke and leaving quite an impression in the process. Here are some other field notes not accounted for in this week's "Live Shots" (see p.46).

SATURDAY, JAN. 1

It might have been New Year's Day, but **Motel Aviv** flashed back to the 1980s, turning **Beauty Bar** into a convincing metro-rave that called to mind the early post-punk energy of **U2** and the **Smiths**. Call it Neo-Romanticism. The **Gary** closed down Beerland with blue-collar anthems of suppressed intensity, threatening but never quite boiling over.

MONDAY, JAN. 3

Not to be confused with the long-standing local power-pop group, **Shells** is a tight country-soul outfit disguised as a power trio, with Bakersfield crackle and classic rock showmanship. The band's closing rave-up "I Am a Number" at **Club de Ville** could hold its own at the next 1967 hoot night.

TUESDAY, JAN. 4

Emo's Sports Bar? If **Tim League** can turn bowling into cocktail entertainment at the **HighBall**, there's no reason why Red

River baron **Frank Hendrix** couldn't pull a similar feat with the outside batting cage. OTR knocked off the rust at the **Alternative Softball League's** happy hour with a torrential, tribal noisetrack provided by improv wrecking crew **Expensive Shit**. As the Sugar Bowl rolled on the big screen, **Half Mile Fox Fur** put its own slant on nerdcore, fusing **Shellac's** calculated rage with awkward teen angst.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5

Add **Smoke & Feathers** to Austin's choogle revival. The fourpiece has tightened its sound since recording with producer **Frenchie Smith**, closing on what sounded like **Pink Floyd's** "Shine on You Crazy Diamond, Pt. 1" envisioned as a Southern eulogy.

THURSDAY, JAN. 6

A ninepiece communal, **East Cameron Folkcore** found strength in numbers at Mohawk, alternating between backwoods bloodletting and pub-drunk laments – broke but not bro-

ken. Inside, **Money Chicha** easily ranked in the Top 25 of **Grupo Fantasma**-related projects, an instrumental fivepiece leaning more toward 1970s Chicano soul spiced with hypnotic organ grooves. Down the street at **Stubbs**, the **Long Tangles**, a precocious keyboards-drums duo, suggested **Mates of State** practicing safer sex.

SATURDAY, JAN. 8

Orville Neeley produced the **Strange Boys'** last album and co-fronts the excellent **Bad Sports**. Outside at Emo's, **OBN III's** proved his rock & roll circus, a big beat revue of atomic delinquency, anchored by members of **A Giant Dog** and a young buzzsaw guitarist that played **James Williamson** to his inner **Iggy Pop**.

SUNDAY, JAN. 9

Wrangling a Western saloon's worth of guitar slingers and drunken poets, **Mike & the Moonpies** delivered honky-tonk heartbreak at Mohawk better than most old-timers and Nashville ringers. Don't miss their Monday night residency at **Hole in the Wall**.

Total number of bands seen: **38**
Best in class: **OBN III's**, **Flesh Lights** (tie)
Next big thing: **Marmalakes**
Best demo: **Shells'** three-song CD-R
Biggest WTF moment:
Danny Malone's balloon/dance sequence at Mohawk
Ready for the big screen: **Crooks**
Best merch booth score: **Hatred Surge**, **Deconstruct** cassette



The Revival Fund

Last Thursday's showcase at Mohawk doubled as a launch party for the **Revival Fund**, a new nonprofit inspired by the late **Jon Pettis** that aims to provide temporary financial assistance to Austin musicians and their families in times of crisis. Judging from recent events, there's clearly a need locally for this kind of service. Learn more at www.therevivalfund.org.

Gilbert Alexander, better known as **Lil Daddy**, a staple at **Antone's** shoe-shine stand for three decades, died on Friday, Jan. 7, after suffering a heart attack at the blues club on New Year's Eve. He was 85. "He's one of those people like **Albert Collins** that always made you feel better," says **Susan Antone**. "He became part of the spirit of the place." A service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 15, 1pm, at **St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church** (2209 E. 14th). A **Chipln** account has been created to help raise funds for the expenses. www.j.mp/e9a3mb.

Extreme Heat drummer **Eddie Cantu** is in intensive care at **University Medical Center** Brackenridge after suffering an atrial fibrillation onstage at Antone's, the *Statesman* reports.

A **Chipln** account has also been started for **John Fox** (**Artly Snuff**) of the **Uranium Savages**, who's still in intensive care after a Dec. 30 car accident. www.j.mp/gYONYD.

Golden Dawn leader **George Kinney** has been diagnosed with liver cancer. While the condition was caught in an early stage of development, the Texas psych pioneer needs help covering his extensive treatment and medications. Pledge support through PayPal: kinney777@gmail.com.



Gary Claxton (1960-2010)

The classic country voice of Austin's **Heybale!**, **Gary Claxton** took his own life on Thursday, Jan. 6. He was 50. A soft-spoken Oklahoma-born Native American, Claxton (pictured far left) joined Heybale! in 1994 during the band's tenure in Nashville with founder **Tom Lewis**. He relocated locally after attending a **Buck Owens** Birthday Bash in the late 1990s at the **Continental Club**, where the band's Sunday night residency became an Austin institution (see "On Any Sunday," June 24, 2005). The weekly show served as a memorial last weekend, with the friends and family gathering to hear Claxton's recently completed albums with Heybale! and **Flat Top Jones**. "He was a singers' singer. The best around," wrote Heybale!'s **Earl Poole Ball** via e-mail. "To me he was the most disciplined musician and person I have ever known. A little brother who led the way in many things both personally and professionally. He was my closest friend."

Random Play

South by Southwest 2011 dropped its initial schedule grid on Wednesday afternoon. While lacking some previous confirmations (**Bright Eyes**), the list includes **Freddie Gibbs**, **Gayngs**, the **Jim Jones Revue**, the **Kills**, and the **Omar Rodriguez-Lopez Group**. Meanwhile, former **Boomtown Rats** leader and activist **Bob Geldof** has been confirmed as the keynote speaker – on St. Patrick's Day no less – and performer. Other panelists include Houston rapper-turned-impresario **Chamillonaire** and financial analyst **Duff McKagan**.

The **Austin Songwriters Group** kicks off its seventh annual **Songwriter Symposium** tonight (Thursday) at the **Omni Hotel at Southpark** with a special performance by **Brett James**, who's also hosting a writing workshop with **Tonio K**. www.austinsongwritersgroup.com.

Okkervil River premiered a new single, "Wake and Be Fine," on *Late Night With Jimmy Fallon* on Monday, Jan. 10, assisted by the **New Pornographers' A.C. Newman** and **Questlove**. According to the host, the band's new album, *I Am Very Far*, is due May 10. Check it out in this week's installment of Wednesday Rewind: austinchronicle.com/thenextepisode.



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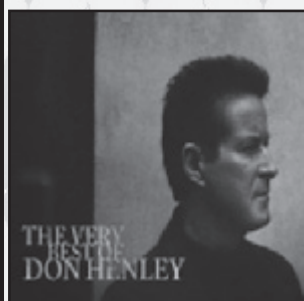
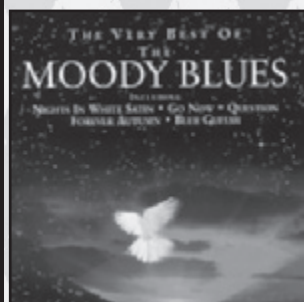
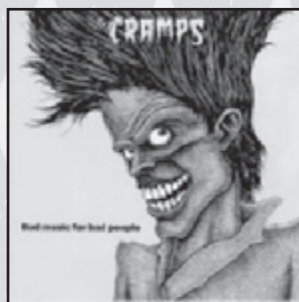
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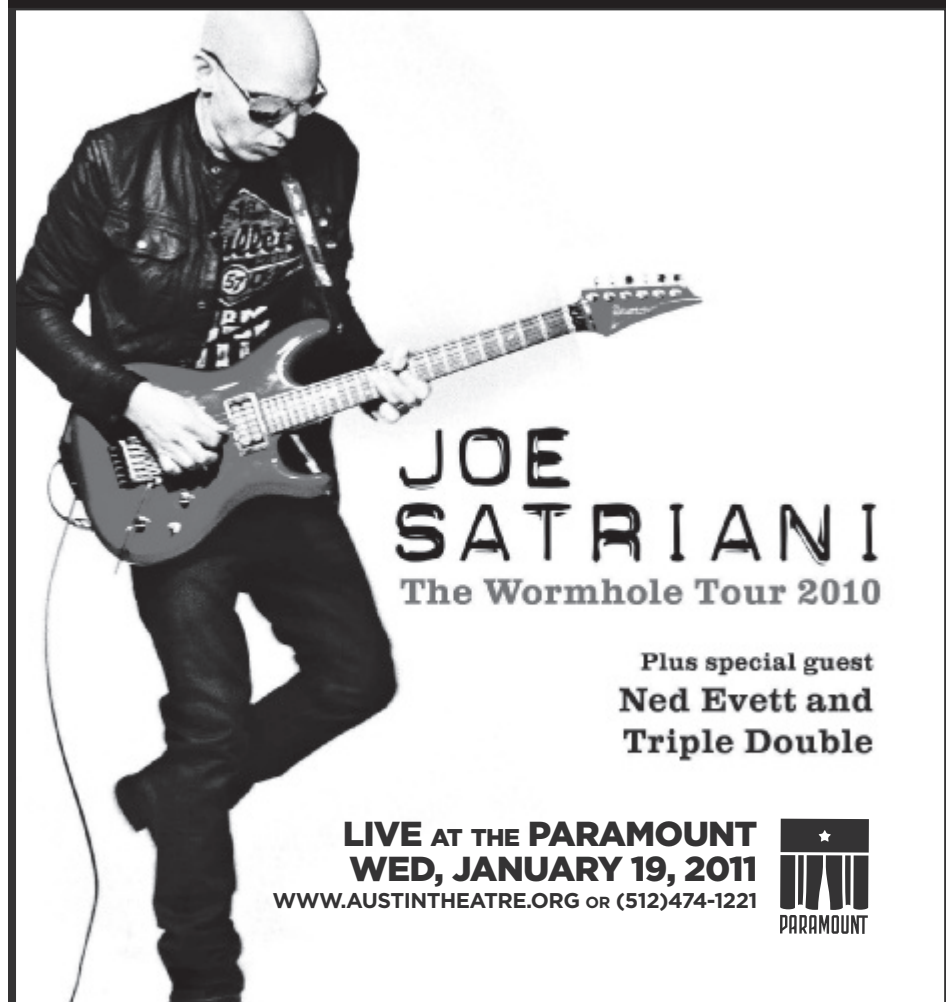


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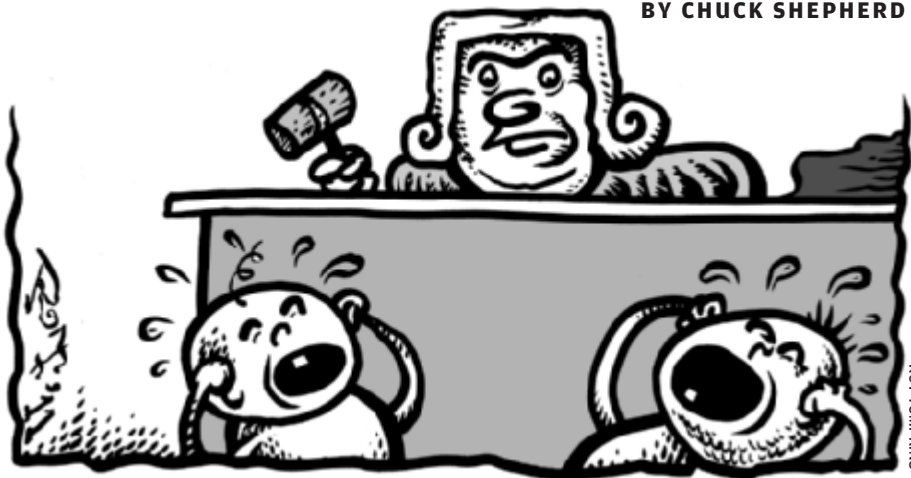
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NEW OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

Kids Law: 1) In July, a 5-year-old boy in Dublin, Ireland, was awarded the equivalent of about \$9,900 from a shopkeeper who had grabbed his arm and accused him, erroneously, of being a thief. Under the law, the boy had to prove that he has, at age 5, a “reputation in the community” for truth-telling and that his reputation had been damaged. 2) A New York City judge ruled in October that an 87-year-old woman who was accidentally knocked down by several kids racing bicycles on the sidewalk could sue the kids, including one who was 4 years old (and who is thus legally presumed to understand the difference between “reasonable” and “unreasonable” behavior).

LEAD STORY

Catch-22 Catches Disabled Veteran: David Henderson, a Korean War veteran long suffering from paranoid schizophrenia, applied 15 days past the deadline for enhanced care under a 2001 veterans-benefits law and thus was, as required by the statute, disqualified from the additional benefits. Henderson's doctor pointed out that major disorders such as Henderson's often leave victims unable to understand concepts like “deadlines.” As U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer asked, during argument on the case in December, did Congress (which wrote the statute) really intend to deprive Henderson of care because of the very disability for which he sought help? (A decision is expected in the spring.)

THE CONTINUING CRISIS

Swinging bachelors often try to impress potential mates with their fancy cars, houses, and jewelry, and it appears that male bowerbirds of Papua New Guinea employ a similar mating strategy by building elaborate tree homes. *National Geographic* noted in July that the birds can “build a hut that looks like a doll's house” or “arrange flowers, leaves, and mushrooms in such an artistic manner” that researchers liken them to the craftsmanship of humans. Biologists observed females gravitating to males who had such structures as a 3-foot tower of twigs, nuts, and beetles, decorated with “garlands of caterpillar feces glistening with dew.”

Best Not To Ask Why: Fredrik Hjelmqvist, 45, owner of an audio shop in Stockholm, Sweden, demonstrated in November his system of broadcasting music from his stomach. He swallowed a plastic capsule containing a battery-operated audio set-up, then connected an amplifier to a stethoscope and held it against his belly, and began playing recorded music, including the Village People's “YMCA,” until the battery died three hours later. Hjelmqvist admitted that the audio quality was poor but still hopes to sell the system for the equivalent of about \$17,000.

Do They Know? 1) An October *Houston Chronicle* review of “experts” on animal consciousness suggested that perhaps dogs are embarrassed when their owners dress them in tacky Halloween costumes. *Pet Psychic* maven Sonya Fitzpatrick said she was certain that some feel shame at their owners' poor fashion sense, but another practitioner said dogs' reactions were probably only to their physical discomfort with the clothing itself. 2) A conservation organization in China's Sichuan province routinely dresses caregivers in panda suits to socialize baby pandas that have lost their mothers so that the babies do not become accustomed to humans. However, as London's *Daily Telegraph* reported in a December dispatch, experts acknowledge that they have no idea whether the babies are fooled.

NEWS THAT SOUNDS LIKE A JOKE

Life Imitates a Monty Python Sketch: An unnamed Danish man traveled to Vienna, Austria, in July for a trial on his lawsuit against the man who had sold him a defective cockatoo for the equivalent of about \$15,000. In a demonstration for the judge in the courtroom's hallway, the bird flew “lopsided,” with the probable cause (according to the purchaser) of chronic gout. The judge's decision was not reported.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Darren Suchon, 42 and unemployed (and usually home all day), was charged in October with reckless driving and assault, among other things, for allegedly running his girlfriend off the road in his zeal to catch her after she drove away with his Sony PlayStation console. She had just left for work, and Suchon weaved through traffic in Palmerton, Pa., then bumped her car when he caught up with her at a traffic light, forcing her off the road. According to witnesses, Suchon rushed the car, “clawing” at it, screaming that he would “break the [expensive] window” if he didn't get his game back.

CLICHES COME TO LIFE

1) In December, Alkis Gerd'son moved out of student housing at Canada's University of Victoria, which had been his home since 1991 (even though he long ago obtained his degree and had not taken a class in 13 years). Gerd'son claims various stress disorders (over, perhaps, finding a job?) and had until now stymied efforts to evict him by filing claims before human rights tribunals. 2) Ricardo West, a professional Michael Jackson impersonator (who staged “Michael Lives! The Michael Jackson Tribute Concert”) was charged in August in Allen Park, Mich., with 12 counts of child molestation.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com
(or www.newsoftheweird.com).

Send your *Weird News* to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.
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Indie rock took its dirt nap around the time of Vampire Weekend's second album. Austin metal hasn't assumed that market share. Halfway through the outside bill on Sunday night at Emo's, local Christian quartet the Brigade at least counted some of its own faithful, with metalcore as nondescript as singer Ian Harvey's Converge hoodie peaking on closing mosh "We Should Only Be So Lucky." Falsetta fared better, almost as many documentarians onstage as musicians, whose death metal still couldn't outdo the locals' use of an *Eastbound & Down* audio sample. Inside, Red River vets Jesus Christ Superfly augmented their Stooge-rock with an organist to garage-y effect. The headliners, Set Aflame (outside) and the Blind Pets (in): obnoxious come offensive ("faggot") for the former metal sixpiece with a decent gallop, vocal defoliation, and undistinguished 2010 debut, *Beheader*. The latter cap city shag trio looked like the Kings of Leon, bottled some Black Keys, and stomped Mudhoney Camaro rock. Monday night inside, local foursome Wild America, in one of its last advertised gigs, bashed as hard, its late-1980s sloppy/tight SST rock crowding a roomful of eager mourners. Wild America's 2010 vinyl EP, *The Sea*, promised much more than breaking up. Outside, homegrown metallurgy finally screamed *básta* with a torpedo triptych, jamming the improvisational psych fantastic of Tia Carrera into the instrumental safari of Eagle Claw. If early Mastodon was scored like a movie, Eagle Claw would win a Grammy. Top dogs Pack of Wolves set its black metal screech astride a NWOBHM tear and torpedoed it home. Draw. — Raoul Hernandez

INDIE INCUBATION

Mohawk, Jan. 5

Judging from the number of underage hand stamps at Mohawk on Wednesday night, the venue may have the Free Week distinction of having made as much money at the door as at the bar. The Red River double-decker has become an incubator for Austin's newest young indie entries, and the headlining Marmalakes justified a packed inside house. Dark Water Hymnal opened behind Jeremy Ballard's plaintive poetry, driven by a percussive broil and Andrea Couch's spectral violin, especially on new tunes "Wind and Waves" and "Center of the Spark" from upcoming sophomore LP *Collapse the Structure*. Little Lo commenced with a cacophony that aimed for the Arcade Fire in the septet's catharsis, but soon settled into a softer folk-pop swoon that hearkened Anathallo in frontman Ryan James McGill's quaking, stuttering vocals and nasal-pitched croon. The group proved adept at both extremes, from a hushed and



surprisingly effective adaptation of William Blake's "A Poison Tree" to the closing surge of "Broken Skin." Sandwiched between Little Lo and Marmalakes, Danny Malone seemed a tried veteran, and his impressive solo set suggested as much, highlighting how far the local songwriter has come in a couple of years. Before a backdrop of Christmas lights and shaded lamps, Malone arrested the audience with acoustic opener "Close Enough" from his most recent *Cuddlebug* and the upbeat guitar slap of "My Affection." Despite the odd iPod-backed balloon-drop interlude, Malone's showcase beckoned for breakout attention. Keeping the room near capacity till close, Marmalakes bounded with a ruckus as the trio cut through last year's debut EP, *Wonder Winds*. Their smooth harmonies and pop polish, especially on scene-making jam "Vittoria," establish Marmalakes as Austin's most compelling answer to Local Natives. If Free Week sets the local musical tone for the year, 2011 looks promising. — Doug Freeman

SYNTHESIZER PHILOSOPHY

Emo's, Jan. 6

While "witch house," a catchall for the darker electronic acts of late, certainly has a nice ring, it's an old sound. In Austin over the last few years, there's been a shift away from three chords toward vintage synths and minimal sounds, a revival of more obscure influences to accompany a less-is-more approach. If anything, double-synth duo Silent Diane sounds like good witches, a combo of wistful lines and doomed drum beats paired with singer Christine Aprile's lovely voice. Along with synthmate Eli Welbourne, looking sort of like Duckie from *Pretty in Pink*, they channeled the dreamy build-up of 2010's "Riverside" 7-inch, on local electronic emporium Answering Machine Recordings. They're the best Dario Argento soundtrack never made, especially the daggered drone of new song "Spell." Speaking of which, Kevin Attics now fronts trio Spells, an updated twist on the Victorian anthems of



his other band Mothfight, the songs louder and more in love with the 1980s. Missions, the new project from Clap!Clap!'s Josh Mills, upped the ante with three synths, plus electronic drums in getting its Depeche Mode on. Neon projections bounced off the wall as the shoulder-to-shoulder crowd tried to dance to Missions' trance. A fine sampling of Austin's new New Wave, but to paraphrase a German philosopher, there are no new sounds, just reinterpretations of old ones.

— Audra Schroeder



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

FREE WEEK SPEED DATING

Beauty Bar, Jan. 8-9

Free Week's the musical equivalent of speed dating: no obligations or financial commitments, plenty to choose from, and only about 30 minutes to make an impression. It's best to approach such circumstances with low expectations, especially when the bill offers a random grab bag, like Beauty Bar's Saturday lineup, where the only obvious headliner, Watch Out for Rockets – the provocative lo-fi pop project from Murdock's drummer David Jones – loaded out before most Red River clubs even opened their doors. Black Books

was an early surprise, recalling Phil Collins-era Genesis approached from a post-rock perspective, spacious yet dense, with a singing drummer that used enough reverb to warrant Jim James comparisons. The synthesized melodrama of fivepiece the Clouds Are Ghosts inhabited similar New Age territory but proved pretentious and overbearing, like trip-hop interpreted by choir boys and their classically trained friends. Despite a tightened rhythm section, the wiry indie rock of veteran quartet Red Leaves didn't fare much better, but the outside stage offered a consistent reprieve. Lacuna Incorporated picked up where its former members of 1990s shoegazers 7% Solution left off – floating in space. The addition of singer-composer Lisa Lipkin added another layer to their headphone psychedelia, which peaked with a telling, closing rendition of Spiritualized's "Come Together." That set the scene for the titanium suites of instrumentalists My Education, who were more immediate and forceful as a quintet than its *Sunrise* soundtrack suggests. In between, FM Campers added oddball electro-rock of the Hype Machine variety, while Paper Shapes closed with the driving, linear post-punk spasms from last year's overlooked *Be Vigilant*. There's nothing sadder than a touring band landing in Austin on the final Sunday of Free Week, opening no less, but Chicago's the Kickback took it in stride with wry indie rock and self-deprecating humor. At least the commute was better for Intimate Stranger. The Anglo-Chilean quartet just moved to town – signed to Austin's Fringecore Records – and made quite the first impression. In obvious radio singles "Nighttime" and "Under," the international fourpiece mixed the glossy energy of New Wave with a modern, alt-rock edge, anchored by Croatian singer/bassist Tessie S-Woodgate. They won't be strangers for long.

— Austin Powell

sports

BY MARK FAGAN

listings

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*?
Submit your sporty happening online at
austinchronicle.com/commform.

University of Texas Men's Basketball

Following their heart-wrenching 82-81 overtime loss at home to **Kemba Walker** and his UConn Huskies last Saturday, the University of Texas men's basketball team started Big 12 play Tuesday night in Lubbock by walloping the unranked Red Raiders 83-52. Texas dominated the boards against Texas Tech 39-23 and was led by senior **Gary Johnson's** game-high 10 rebounds. Freshman stud **Tristan Thompson** was UT's leading scorer with 20 points, and fellow freshman **Jordan Hamilton** pitched in for 16, but the team only shot 62.9% from the free-throw line. For such a young team, I was as impressed with their loss to the Huskies as I was with their blow-out win over Texas Tech. Hard-fought losses against ranked teams, with UT playing excellent defense for much of the game, will help to prepare the Horns for a long run in March's NCAA tourney. Not to overlook the Sooners, but next Wednesday's tilt against the Aggies (No. 14 in the AP poll as of press time) is one you won't want to miss. Vs. Oklahoma: *Sat., Jan. 15, 3pm.* Vs. Texas A&M: *Wed., Jan. 19, 8pm.* Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$8-40. www.texassports.com.



Gary Johnson

THE MAIN EVENT

★ **ANARCHY CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING** ACW returns to Mohawk for the fifth anniversary of its Guilty by Association flagship show featuring the "Essence of Excellence" Robert Evans, Matthew Palmer, "The Mind of Wrestling" JT LaMotta, "Mr. Showtime" Scot Summers, and more. *Sun., Jan. 16, 5:15pm.* Mohawk, 912 Red River, 482-8404. \$15, front row; \$10, general admission. www.anarchychampionshipwrestling.com.

★ **USA SWIMMING AUSTIN GRAND PRIX** One of seven stops on the 2010-11 USA Swimming Grand Prix Series, showcasing some of the top swimmers in the world as well as the next generation of stars. *Fri.-Sat.-Sun., Jan. 14-16; prelims start at 9:30am each day; finals start at 5:30pm.* \$5-12 for individual sessions, or \$35 for an all-session pass. Texas Swimming Center, 1900 E. Campus Dr. www.usaswimming.org.

THE HOME TEAMS

★ **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball** Vs. Oklahoma: *Sun., Jan. 16, 12:30pm.* Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$8-16. www.texassports.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. McMurry: *Thu., Jan. 20, 7:30pm.* Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr. **Women's Basketball** Vs. McMurry: *Thu., Jan. 20, 5:30pm.* Concordia Fieldhouse. athletics.concordia.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Swimming Vs. Trinity University: *Sat., Jan. 15, 2pm.* Corbin J. Robertson Center. www.southwesternpirates.com.

★ **TEXAS STARS** \$3 beers, \$2 sodas, and dollar dogs. For more on the Stars, see *Chronicle* Sports blog, the Score at austinchronicle.com/thescore. Vs. Grand Rapids: *Tue., Jan. 18, 7:30pm.* Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/467-8277. \$10-50. www.texasstarshockey.com.

TEXAS STATE Men's Basketball Vs. Sam Houston State: *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm.* Strahan Coliseum. \$6-10. **Women's Basketball** Vs. McNeese State: *Sat., Jan. 15, 4pm.* Strahan Coliseum. \$4-6. www.txstatebobcats.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Arkansas-Fort Smith: *Thu., Jan. 13, 8pm.* Vs. Dallas Baptist: *Sat., Jan. 15, 2pm.* Recreation and Convocation Center, 3001 S. Congress. **Women's Basketball** Vs. Arkansas-Fort Smith: *Thu., Jan. 13, 5:30pm.* Recreation and Convocation Center, 3001 S. Congress. athletics.concordia.edu.

RECREATION & FITNESS

WINTER NATIONAL SOCCER TOURNEY Round Rock is hosting 3v3 Live Soccer's winter tourney for the third year in a row, with teams from across America and Mexico. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 15-16.* Old Settlers Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 512/218-5540. www.3v3live.com.

YAPPY HOUR Monthly sessions help better acclimate your pup so he or she fully enjoys a nice paddle out on the lake. *Tue., Jan. 18, 6-7pm.* Rowing Dock, 2418 Stratford, 459-0999. \$10-15. www.rowingdock.com.

CHAPARRAL ICE offers free first lessons every Saturday for ages 6 and up. Also, men's, women's, and youth hockey leagues. "Try Me" clinics: *Saturdays, noon.* Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500, and Northcross Mall, 451-5102. www.chaparralice.com.

FREE OUTDOOR CROSS TRAINING CLASSES Every Saturday through Jan. 29. Sign-up online. Lake Pflugerville and Town Lake locations. 512/826-3977. Donations accepted. www.outrightfitness.com.

SENIOR ADVENTURES KAYAKING Seniors meet to enjoy stand-up paddling and kayaking and then usually lunch afterward. *Wednesdays, 10-11:30am.* Texas Rowing Center, 1541 W. Cesar Chavez on Lady Bird Lake, 467-7799. Free, Texas Rowing Center members; \$15, nonmembers. www.texasrowingcenter.com.

IGNITE WOMEN'S HEALTH Seton's IWH will host this run/walk program every Saturday leading up to the Livestrong race. *Saturdays through Feb. 19, 9-10am.* Brushy Creek Sports Park, 2310 Brushy Creek Rd., Cedar Park, 512/324-4086. www.goodhealth.com/ignite.

ASK THE PHYSICAL THERAPIST Gladys Nicholls will help guide you through your exercise program or get you started on one. *Wed., Jan. 19, 6:30pm.* Seton Diabetes Education Center, 5555 N. Lamar, Bldg. D #125, 324-1891. Free. www.goodhealth.com/classes_and_events/category/diabetes.

WEST AUSTIN YOUTH ASSOCIATION Now registering for various kids' sports camps. www.waya.org.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. www.wildbasin.org.

EL DAPPER DAN DASH DOS! This second annual tweed ride encourages participants to wear their Sunday best. *Sun., Jan. 16, 2pm.* Pflugers Pedestrian Bridge, 100 N. Lamar. Free. www.dapperdandash.wordpress.com.

RIVER ROAD 13.1 MILE RUN AND 4 MILE FUN RUN/WALK *Sat., Jan. 15, 8am.* River Road Ice House, 1791 Hueco Springs Loop Rd., New Braunfels, 830/627-8401. \$20-50. www.formstack.com/forms/RedemptionRP-RiverRoadRun2011.

AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION Fun biking adventures, listed at www.austincycling.org/rides.html.

RANGER STAMPEDE 5K RUN/WALK *Wed., Jan. 19, 5pm.* 1102 S. Congress, 810-3739 (text only). Free for students 21 and under, \$2 for adults. www.runtex.com.

VERN'S NO FRILLS 5K NO. 22 *Sat., Jan. 15, 8am.* Berry Springs Park, Georgetown, 512/724-3774. \$1 for adults. *Sat., Jan. 15.* www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=135015020579.

BY NICK BARBARO soccer watch

Winning isn't (always) everything: **Lionel Messi** was named FIFA's **world player of the year** for the second straight year, though his teams fell short of reaching the finals in the world's two biggest tournaments – **Argentina** in the **World Cup** and **Barcelona** in the **UEFA Champions League**. But Messi is so good and so fun to watch that his selection is a benediction in a sport where those values too often take a backseat to the cynicism of winning at all costs. The Spanish media were outraged on behalf of the two Spanish runners-up, Messi's Barca teammates **Xavi** and **Andres Iniesta**. But Xavi put it in perspective, saying Messi "is one step above us all. He's the best player, and there can be no argument."

Several **American players** are on the move in the January transfer window, with **Edson Buddle**, **Jonathan Bornstein**, and **Robbie Findley** all leaving MLS for Germany, Mexico, and England, respectively, and **Clarence Goodson**, **Brad Guzan**, and **Oguchi Onyewu** among several others transferring around Europe. Apart from that, there's not been a lot of drama thus far in the transfer market, which runs through the end of January. Meanwhile, the midwinter break is now over across most of the European leagues, and the second half of the season is under way.

FOOTBALL WATCH

I ran into former *Chronicle* freelance writer and New Orleans Saints fan Robert Gabriel at the UT vs. UConn basketball game last Saturday, and we thought it would be fun to publicly go head-to-head for the remainder of the NFL playoffs picking teams against the spread. So let's do this. See this column online at austinchronicle.com for our picks.

Read more "Football Watch" online at austinchronicle.com.

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THURSDAY **13**

BIG & LITTLE ADVENTURES

Designed for the preschool set, this brief class teaches your kids about the marvels that are mammals. Outdoor exploration, a meeting with a new animal friend, and a simple craft are all included. *Thursdays, 9am. Through Jan. 27. Austin Nature & Science Center, 301 Nature Center Dr., 974-3888. \$12. www.cityofaustin.org/ansc.*

AISD FACILITY MASTER PLAN PUBLIC MEETING

This task force will be making decisions and recommendations that affect schools districtwide. Learn about the options the panel has come up with and offer some polite and constructive criticism. 6-8pm. *Toney Burger Activity Center, 3200 Jones, 414-2667. www.austinsisd.org.*

AUSTIN ENERGY RATE REVIEW OVERVIEW Join the Public Involvement Committee and discuss the cost of energy in Austin. We vote for making it cheaper. Problem solved. 6-9pm. *Austin Energy headquarters, Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Rd. www.rates.austinenenergy.com.*

MLK CHILDREN'S ORATORY CONTEST Finalists from local elementary schools share their five-minute speeches honoring Dr. King. After U.S. savings bonds have been handed out to the winners, local high schoolers will be recognized for academic excellence and exceptional leadership. 6pm. *Seton Family of Hospitals Administration Office, St. Vincent de Paul Auditorium, 1345 Philomena. Free.*

PFLAG SATELLITE OF LOVE "Austin is big, and we now need two meeting sites to serve different parts of Austin," the local chapter of PFLAG says. So be it. So come to this first meet & greet and then meet each second Thursday of the month! 6:45pm, then each second Thursday, 7pm. *Faith Presbyterian Church, 1314 E. Oltorf, 302-3524. Free. www.pflag-austin.org.*

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS KICKOFF Set your pedals to the metal and get in gear. Free food, free booze, live music by Skyrocket, and a chance to win a free bike shall pump you up for the big April ride. 7-9pm. *Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 371-7433. Free. www.hillcountryride.org.*

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EXPERIENCE

Is your kid an educational overachiever? Learn what this program can do to keep your high schooler's gray matter engaged. 7pm. *Anderson High, 8403 Mesa, 414-7951. Free. www.andersononline.org.*

KOOP RADIO SWEET 16 BENEFIT CONCERT

Kelly Willis, Slaid Cleaves, and Sara Hickman sing and strum their hearts out so that you will take your wallet out and help keep KOOP radio on the airwaves. Silent auction items also vie for your expendable income. VIP tickets include face time with the musical performers and other gifts. 7pm. *Antone's, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. \$20 (\$60, VIP). www.koop.org.*

PUERTO RICAN CHRISTMAS CAROLING Wondering why your Puerto Rican neighbors still have their trees up? Turns out they celebrate until Octavitas, Jan. 23. Join in on the prolonged party by singing or playing an instrument while learning *Parrandas* (Puerto Rican-style carols). 7pm. *Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Culture Center, 701 Tillery #13, 251-8122. Free. www.prfdance.org.*

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THURSDAY, JAN. 13 TO THURSDAY, JAN. 20

calendar

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/COMMUNITY

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

Monique Daviau, and rapper MC Sex stroke the mic at the monthly Bedpost Confessions. 8pm. *United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. Free. www.bedpostconfessions.com.*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Dougherty Arts Center, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Women & Their Work

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Laura @ Paramount, 9pm
Out of the Past @ Paramount, 7pm
Promised Land @ MonkeyWrench Books, 6:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

KOOP's Sweet 16 Antone's
A Special Evening with Aasim Syed Beerland Bill Callahan Mohawk

FRIDAY **14**

RAISE THE REX BENEFIT FOR YELLOW BIKE PROJECT

Local bands plug in to support this community bike nonprofit. Admission includes free treats, a tandem bike photo booth, and more. Bring some extra charitable donation funds for the raffle. 9pm-2am. *United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth, 949-8093. \$6. www.austinyellowbike.org.*

GIRL TALK AFTERPARTY

Booty Bounce Master and Austin ex-pat Rusty Lazer (Big Freedia) will keep your girl talkin'. Plus, Javelin right through the heart. 10pm. *Emo's, 603 Red River, 505-8541. www.emosaustin.com.*

THEATRE (See Arts Listings.)

Planet of the Mermaids The Vortex

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

GrayDuck Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Laura @ Paramount, 7pm
Out of the Past @ Paramount, 9pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Exploded Drawing 4 Baby Blue Studio
Yellow Bike Project Benefit United States Art Authority
The Texas Tornados Antone's
Pong, Pocket FishRmen Continental Club

SATURDAY **15**


MONTHLY BIRD WALK

The folks at Travis Audubon show you how to walk and bird-watch in style. 7:30am-noon. *Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory, 2210 FM 973 S., 300-2473. Free. www.travisaudubon.org.*

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET features fresh organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from local farms, plus live music every week. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.*

COFFEE & A PETTING ZOO This Mueller coffee shop has all the caffeine adults could want and, today, also has Austin's traveling petting zoo, Tiny Tails to You, bringing hand-friendly animals for the kids to get to know. 9am-noon. *The Coffee Trailer, 4507 Airport. www.thecoffeetrailer.com.*

JUNKYARD CASSEROLE Ingredients in this recipe include an art show, a yard sale, trash sculptures, recycled treats, live music, comedy, and more. *Sat-Sun., Jan. 15-16, 9am-5pm. 2608 Rogers, 696-0336. Free. www.palfloat.com.*

 **MLK DAY OF SERVICE** United Way is looking for a few good individuals, groups, and organizations that understand MLK Day isn't just a day off, but a chance to serve the community. Go online – www.handsoncentraltexas.org – to sign up for one of many volunteer opportunities around East Austin. 9am. *Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 505-3139.*

SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER FARMERS' MARKET Organic and local meats, cheeses, and produce. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones, 414-2096. Free. www.sfcfarmersmarketsunsetvalley.org.*

CENTRAL TEXAS GARDENING 101 Learn the basics of gardening in Austin's unique growing environment. 10am-noon. *Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 854-9600. Free. www.tcmastergardeners.org.*

BY KATE X MESSER

gayplace

LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT MY GRANDCHILDREN?!

Watch out, readers, we're 'bout ready to wax poetical and frenetical and brag up on one of our own. Yes, we realize that we dip into the treacherous belly-button-lint-gazing territory of self-reflection with frightening regularity, but with bloggers and buddies the likes of which we affiliate, how the hell can you blame us? And as accomplished and full of ourselves as so many of us in the **Gay Place Krewe** are, there is one among us who shines above all shine. **Dandy Unicorn** is certainly a candidate, but even he bows his effluent curly-Q unihorn to this magnanimous Gay Placer. **Andy Campbell** teaches art history at the **University of Texas and Texas State University**. This packed résumé of high-art goodness alone would usually be enough to sate the soul of most culture warriors, but, lezbihonest, Andy is kinda into boundary pushing. (And let's save chatter about his impending dissertation on leather communities for another epic entry, shall we?) Aside from his art-prof

Send gay bits to
gayplace@
austinchronicle.com.
Visit
austinchronicle.com/
gayplaceblog.

gigs, Andy is also an art *activist*, a political activist, a **pug** companion, a member of the tribe (many tribes, in fact), a dancing queen, a stunning writer, a **brooch** collector, an art collector, a musician, a **Blingee** wender, a lover tender, a performance artist, a **QueerBomber**, an all-around great guy, and (hold onto your shorts) a **comedian**. Impressive! Were this all not enough, he is also a member in good standing of the **Austin Femme Mafia**. But to simply list the creds of our fabulous friend is not the mission of this blather. The mission is to tell you, dearest reader, that you may catch one Andy Campbell, live and in the flesh this week as the **3\$Bills** present the **Big Gay Variety Show**. You may also catch his genius curatorial splendor at Texas State over the next few weeks in the engaging and challenging mega-art show **"SUBstainability"** in San Marcos. Dang. Even we say, "Whew." And on top of all of this, he still makes time to be our crying towel and brow unfurrower. Fancy that. (See Saturday and Wednesday.)



L - R: IDENTIFYING & REPORTING ANIMAL CRUELTY (SEE TUESDAY) | UT BASKETBALL (SPORTS, P.47) | WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY (ARTS, P.52) | THE GREEN HORNET (FILM, P.56) | KOOL KEITH (MUSIC, P.66)

PEACE THROUGH PIE Guided and free-form conversation take place in honor of Dr. King. Pie is served to ensure that mouths will be busy and everyone has a chance to speak. 10am-1pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057. www.peacethroughpie.org.

TEXAS BAMBOO SOCIETY Get to know the different types of bamboo that thrive in Austin, and groom some yourself in the Taniguchi Japanese Garden. Hand clippers, loppers, a saw, and gloves recommended. 10am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 929-9565. Free. www.bamboocentral.net.

MONTOPOLIS GREENBELT DAY OF SERVICE Help keep the 40 acres of undeveloped land in Southeast Austin free of trash and invasive plant species. Working for no money has never felt so good. Those who sign up online meet at Huston-Tillotson University for breakfast and volunteer check-in at 8:30am. 10:30am-3pm. Montopolis Practice Fields, 901 Vasquez. www.montopolisgreenbelt.org.

BEER SCHOOL What you don't know about beer could hurt you. Call or sign up online to register. 11am. North by Northwest Restaurant & Brewery, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 467-6969. \$35. www.nxnwbrew.com.

TINPLATE TRACKERS TRAIN CLUB Come watch the choo-choos and inspire the next generation to keep this historic hobby alive and well. You might even be allowed to sit behind the controls if you're kind enough to the tip jar. Saturdays, noon-5pm. Through Jan. 15. 201 W. Second. Donations appreciated. www.trainweb.org/ttat.

INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION WORKSHOP Start on the path to adoption with this introductory info seminar. 12:30-3pm. Old Quarry Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., 323-9595. Free. www.childrenofallnations.com.

★ ROUND ROCK'S MARTIN LUTHER KING COMMEMORATIVE MARCH celebrates the accomplishments of the civil rights movement with a procession beginning at C.D. Fulkes Middle School (300 W. Anderson) and ending at the Alan Baca Center (301 W. Bagdad), where the 2pm program begins with music from the Round Rock High School Show Choir, Stony Point High School Jazz Ensemble, area gospel choirs, a talk from the Rev. Fred Warren of the One Baptist Church of Round Rock, and more. 1pm. 512/567-6988. Free. www.roundrocktexas.gov/calendar.

AMOA PUBLIC TOURS Nothing like a docent-led tour of the Austin Museum of Art's latest exhibition to increase your cultural cachet. Saturdays, 2pm. Austin Museum of Art - Downtown, 823 Congress, 495-9224. Free with museum admission. www.amoa.org.

CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASS This advanced language class will meet in small groups and focus on speaking skills. First and third Saturdays, 4pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org/adult-programs-and-volunteering/programs-for-adults.html.

★ GIRLS INCORPORATED WELLNESS SERIES teaches simple, healthy meal preparation and fun activities. Third Saturdays of the month, 1-3pm. Windsor Park Library, 5833 Westminster, 423-8952. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

👑 THE BIG GAY VARIETY SHOW! Jayson, Kim, Marci, and the Gay Place's own Andy Campbell offer three bucks and change in the currency of funny. The Queertastiks and Circus Chickendog keep it serious. 8pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 974-4000. \$5. www.thethreedollarbills.com.

GROWN FOLKS SKATING & DANCE PARTY Looking for a bit of retro partying? Lace up the skates for a roll, or just enjoy the dance party. Real pros can combine the two into the ultimate roller-dance. 9pm-12mid. Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex, 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. \$5. www.myec.net.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Lora Reynolds Gallery

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Shearwater Central Presbyterian Church
Kool Keith, Big Freedia Mohawk
James Arthur's Manhunt Beerland
The Royal Butchers Continental Club

SUNDAY 16

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY MASS CELEBRATION This full mass commemorates the life of MLK with a theme of "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." A reception immediately follows. 10am. Holy Cross Catholic Church, 1610 E. 11th, 388-1320.

👑 LEGENDARY: THE DRAG BRUNCH You had us at "unlimited bacon." (Not to mention washing it all down with those mimosas.) Come get diva'd up on a Sunday with sassy Saffire, Topaz, Tara St. Stone, and Miss Ima Hoot. Brunch, 11am-3pm; shows, noon & 2pm. M Two, 208 W. Fourth, 478-7222. \$20.

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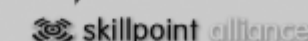
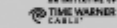
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GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION



Artly Snuff aka John Fox

Needs Your Help

Artly Snuff aka John Fox is an Austin icon. A strong contributor to Austin's unique culture, he is a writer, historian, and performer.

Originator of the Shrovinovers, the Uranium Savages have benefited from his antics for over 30 years.

Artly was critically injured in a car accident on December 30th and is still in the ICU at an area hospital.

Artly's recovery will be long and arduous.
He and his wife, Theresa, need our help.

For updates about Artly, information about the upcoming benefit or to make a financial contribution contact uptosnuff709@gmail.com

To send cards please use this address:

Artly Snuff c/o The South Austin Popular Culture Center,
1516 South Lamar Blvd. #709, Austin, TX, 78704



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AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART
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BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

daytrips

The **Texas Museum of Automotive History** at Fair Park in Dallas takes visitors on a journey through 100 years of heavy metal. From the 1909 Buick Model 10 Runabout to the 2010

Dodge Viper, the collection of cars is a Sunday drive down the memory lane of classic automobiles.

"We try to have a little something for everyone," says Wilbert van Grinsven, general manager of the museum. "We have antique cars, muscle cars, race cars, sports cars, and celebrity cars."

Opened in November 2010, in the shadow of the Cotton Bowl stadium near where Big Tex stands during the State Fair, the museum occupies the former Women's Building. Van Grinsven says the idea for the museum originated when a group of car collectors got together to trade notes. Even though there were several large and significant private automobile collections in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, there was no permanent public venue for displaying the rare vehicles.

Having pooled their resources, the collectors approached the city of Dallas about using one of the Fair Park exhibition halls that stood vacant most of the year. It is still up in the air what the museum will do during the State Fair this fall, but in 2012 the cars will move to a permanent home in the old Science Building at the Museum of Nature & Science in Fair Park when it moves to new quarters downtown.

Besides the new car exhibits during the State Fair, Fair Park has a long automotive history of its own, says van Grinsven. From 1902 to 1936 there was an automobile race track next to the Cotton Bowl. In 1984, the sidewalks and streets in the park hosted a Formula One Grand Prix.

Now, some of the rarest automobiles in the world call the park home. With a lineup that includes Babe Ruth's custom 1948 Lincoln Continental, a jet-engine-powered dragster, and a 1966 Ferrari, the exhibit can be dazzling. Van Grinsven says with the number of cars available for loan from private collectors, the museum will be able to rotate the 80 cars on exhibit about every three months. One sponsor, a Ford dealer, could supply a year's worth of vintage cars by himself without repeating.

Besides the bright-red Ferrari, van Grinsven's favorite car in the current exhibit is a 1934 Ford Brewster with an art deco heart-shaped front grill. These rarities were the luxury cars of the Great Depression and were produced in limited quantities by Ford. Built to Edsel Ford's specifications, the car is a gorgeous machine, even by modern standards.

The Texas Museum of Automotive History is at 1221 Midway Plaza in Fair Park. The museum also sponsors a restoration garage in the back of the exhibition hall to train disadvantaged and at-risk kids in automotive restoration and life skills. For more information, call 214/533-4891 or go to www.tmah.org.

1,018th in a series. Collect them all. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

1934 FORD BREWSTER

outoftown

STARGAZING AT THE ROUGHS Bring the whole family to search the cosmos through the telescopes with astronomer-led programs. *Fri., Jan. 14, 9-10:30pm. McKinney Roughs Nature Park, near Bastrop, 512/303-5073. Free. www.lcra.org/parks/developed_parks/mckinney_roughs.html.*

STOCK SHOW & RODEO Since 1896, the livestock show and indoor rodeo has provided entertainment that now includes a midway, music, shopping, and lots of fair food. *Jan. 14-Feb. 5. Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth, 817/877-2420. www.fwssr.com.*

WINDOWS ON TEXAS MUSIC FESTIVAL Sample some of the Hill Country's favorite and up-and-coming musicians at various venues around town. *Fri.-Sun., Jan. 14-16. Fredericksburg, 830/997-2197. Free. www.texasrebelradio.com.*

YAGA'S CHILI QUEST AND BEER FEST What better way to warm up while you're wandering down the Strand than with a sampling of handmade chili and washing it down with one of 55 award-winning beers? *Jan. 14-16, 10:30am-4:30pm. Galveston, 409/770-0999. www.yagasresents.com/chiliquest.*

HILL COUNTRY GEM & MINERAL SHOW This show and sale has everything from raw rocks to intricate jewelry, plus a lot of information about Texas geology. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 15-16. Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Fredericksburg, 830/895-9630. Free. www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org.*

BUTCHERING AND CURING Throughout the week-end park staff will be demonstrating each step from hoof to bacon as they prepare two hogs for the dinner table. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 15-16. Barrington Living History Farm, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site, 936/878-2214. www.birthplaceoftexas.com.*

★ **SUSAN BRIGHT MEMORIAL SWIM** Celebrate the life of a beloved Austin poet and publisher with a dip in her muse, Barton Springs. Bring a dish to share for the pot luck that follows the chilly swim. *11am. www.plainviewpress.net.*

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM This week, Ann Marshall of the Austin Celtic Community discusses the relevance of Robert Burns and the beauty of Scottish culture in general. *11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinnuu.org.*

LEGAL EAGLES OF 1880S TEXAS The third in a series of talks about 19th century life: Texas Constitution scholar William J. Chriss discussing what it meant to practice law in the Southwest during the 1880s. *2pm. Neill-Cochran House Museum, 2310 San Gabriel, 478-2335. \$10 (free, members). www.nchmuseum.org.*

🐼 **SNOWBALL FIGHT!** A team of talented improvisers takes kids to a land of cold temps, stories, games, and songs based on audience suggestions. *Sundays, 2pm. Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$8. www.flyingtheatremachine.com.*

👑 **A GIRL NAMED GUS** How can you not love 12-year-old Gus? Gus, furious at the gay marriage ban, has made her bat mitzvah project to raise money for the American Foundation for Equal Rights, funding the fight against Prop. 8 in California. More than 50 artists and other crafty types have made creative wedding pillows to be auctioned off at a local artist's studio, at Gus' behest. (Website login is "pillowproject" and the password is "equality.") *3-5pm. Valerie Fowler Studio, 1211 Ravine Dr., 608-3125. Free. ox@austin.rr.com, www.bit.ly/gUW1Ve.*

★ **MLK MUSICAL CELEBRATION** Various church choirs and music ministries sing the praises of the great Martin Luther King Jr. The evening also features dance and excerpts from the "I Have a Dream" speech. *5pm. St. James Baptist Church, 3417 E. MLK, 928-2753. Free.*

JUNKYARD CASSEROLE (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
9,000 Needles @ Alamo Village, 4pm
Laura @ Paramount, 4pm
Out of the Past @ Paramount, 2pm
Some Came Running @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Al Jarreau Riverbend Centre

MONDAY 17

🐼 **BABY BLOOMERS** Bring the kiddiest of kids (ages 3 and under) for a playdate including storytime, a sing-along, the Little Explorer's Lab, and more childish and educational antics. *Mondays, 9am-noon. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$4-8. www.austinkids.org.*

★ **MLK MARCH & FESTIVAL** The march fittingly begins at the Martin Luther King Jr. statue on the UT campus (23rd & San Jacinto, 9am) and ends at Huston-Tillotson University. All are invited to take part in the procession. Upon arriving at the university the celebration continues with an outdoor concert featuring local Austin bands (including Les & the Funk Mob, Bavu Blakes, and the Nelson Saga Band), vendors, and more. *9am-4pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 630-7926. Free. www.mlkcelebration.com.*

👑 **FREE CONFIDENTIAL HIV TESTING** Youths ages 12-23 who are navigating the tricky waters of their burgeoning sea of sexuality may gain financial incentives for bringing a friend in to get tested. And you get tested, too, at these free, weekly screenings. *Every Monday, 4:30-6:30pm. Out Youth, 909 E. 49½, 419-1233. Free. monrovia@outyouth.org, www.outyouth.org.*

LITERA (See Arts Listings.)
Speaking the Spoken the Art of Verse
The Vortex

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
James Brown: Live at the Boston Garden, 1968 @ Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm
The Upsetter: The Life and Times of Lee 'Scratch' Perry @ Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm

TUESDAY 18

IDENTIFYING & REPORTING ANIMAL CRUELTY

The city of Austin teaches attendees to identify, report, and prevent animal cruelty. *6:15pm. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez, 972-6084. Free. www.austinnimalcenter.org.*

SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS MEETING City of Austin planner George Zapalac presents his Open Space ordinance and asks for feedback. Other presentations include a talk about affordable housing and a slideshow highlighting a sustainable neighborhood center in Stuttgart, Germany. *6:30pm. Christian Village Apartments, 7925 Rockwood. www.snaustin.org.*

NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEETING Dr. Wendy Gordon of Texas Parks & Wildlife talks climate change and biodiversity in Texas. *7pm. Wild Basin Wilderness meeting room, 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 472-1062. Free. www.npsot.org/austin.*

★ **TEAPOT PARTY MEETUP** The tea party this ain't. Join with other friends of cannabis and discuss real steps to reforming drug laws. Bring something for the potluck or prepare to be the pariah of the meeting. *7pm. Texas Hemp Campaign Meeting House, 3109 E. Cesar Chavez. Free. www.austinteapotparty.com.*

👑 **TUEZGAYZ** Barbarella was getting too big for her britches – so she got bigger. More room means more glitter. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Barbarella, 615 Red River, 476-7766. www.barbarellaustin.com, www.theglititoris.tumblr.com.*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS

(See Film Listings.)
Evangelion: 1.0: You Are (Not) Alone @ Alamo Lake Creek, 10pm
Happiness (Le Bonheur) @ Alamo South, 7pm
Pretty in Pink @ Alamo Ritz, 7:45pm

MUSIC

(See Music Listings.)
Pure Texas Band Reunion Broken Spoke

WEDNESDAY 19

WOMEN IN COMMUNICATIONS MEETING

Hosted by the Association for Women in Communications, this meeting features sessions to get your networking up to speed. Perfect your "elevator speech" and climb that ladder to success. Either way, you're going up. *11:30am. UT Club, Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman. \$50 (\$40, members). www.awcaustin.org.*

👑 **GAY SENSITIVE AA MEETING** You don't have to be a UT student; you just have to want to quit drinking. Meet in the basement of the School of Social Work every Hump Day at lunchtime. *Noon-12:45pm. UT School of Social Work, 1925 San Jacinto, 475-8352. hn85@mail.utexas.edu, i.grahovac@uhs.utexas.edu.*

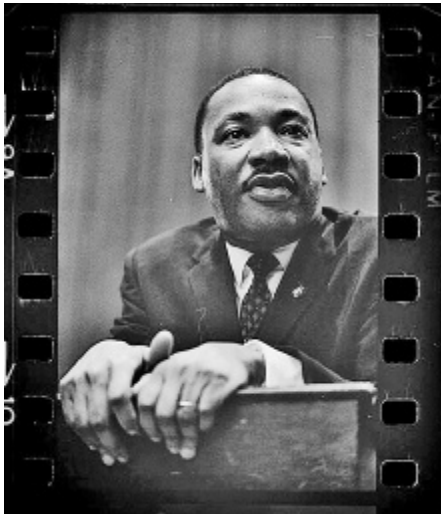
👑 **SUBSTAINABILITY: IVAN LOZANO** According to group exhibit curators Mary Mikel Stump and Gay Placer Andy Campbell, this show regards "the multiple ways that we are sustained emotionally, mentally, and bodily," and "new work from multimedia artist Ivan Lozano, whose work has set out to recover lost moments in queer history, will be premiered." *Dang. 2pm. Texas State University, JCM 2121. www.txstateu.wordpress.com/events.*

EXERCISE AND DIABETES SEMINAR Physical therapist Gladys Nicholls shares her knowledge. Call to register. *6:30pm. Seton Diabetes Education Center, 5555 N. Lamar, Bldg. D #125, 324-1891. Free. www.bit.ly/hvayFj.*

★ **STATE OF THE CITY DINNER** AISD Superintendent Meria Carstarphen headlines this evening of dinner and silent auctions. Hosted by local author Mary Gordon Spence and the Austin Area League of Women Voters. RSVPs must be received by Jan. 15. *6:30pm. UT Club, Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman. \$55 (\$48, members). www.lwvaustin.org.*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT LECTURE Andrew Ellington of UT's Institute for Cellular and Molecular Biology discusses the biochemistry of early life. We're talking the-dawn-of-time early. *7pm. American Legion Post 76, 2201 W. Cesar Chavez. Free. www.centerforinquiry.net/austin.*

👑 **OCH RETRO NIGHT: BACK TO THE BOATHOUSE** Come for the memories at this veritable class



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY EVENTS
(ALL WEEK)

reunion of an old beloved Austin gay bar with all your Eighties tricks, tunes from the times, and drinks for \$1. Not exactly Reaganomics, thank God. *Wednesdays, 10pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Evangelion: 2.0: You Can (Not) Advance @ Alamo Lake Creek, 10pm
Food Design @ Alamo South, 7pm
Santa Sangre @ Alamo Ritz, 6:30pm
Tiny Furniture @ Alamo Village, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
The Ghost of a Saber Tooth Tiger Cactus Cafe

THURSDAY 20

LGBTQ ARTS & OUTDOORS Bright, articulate professionals sought for platonic, stimulating adventures. Join the group to find out more. Free. lovelaketravis@yahoo.com, www.meetup.com/Intellect-Arts-Outdoors.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT ON FINANCIAL LITERACY Learn what local nonprofits are doing to educate the tens of thousands of households losing portions of their paychecks to check cashers. Noon. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. Free. www.ilivehereigivehere.org.

BARNEY'S BIRTHDAY BASH Honestly, we thought the Wiggles had Barney taken out of the picture (if you know what we mean). Apparently not. Apparently he is still singing and dancing and indoctrinating your kids in a way only a purple dinosaur can. 3 & 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 477-6060. \$15-55. www.uterwincenter.com.

GREEN BUSINESS NETWORKING MIXER Interested in making your business more sustainable or meeting like-minded people? Go online to purchase tickets. 5:30-8:30pm. Trifecta on Third, 360 Nueces #30, 320-9909. Free. www.texasgreennetwork.org.

CAMERON ROAD CORRIDOR WORKSHOP Get involved in these public planning sessions. The fate of your neighborhood depends on it. 6:30pm. Virginia Brown Recreation Center, 7500 Blessing,



SUSAN BRIGHT MEMORIAL SWIM
(SEE SUNDAY)

974-7865. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/planning/neighborhood/sj_ch.htm.

PICKFAIR RECREATION CENTER INPUT MEETING The Austin Parks and Recreation Department invites the public to weigh in on the proposed improvements to this community park and rec center. 6:30pm. Spicewood Elementary School, 11601 Olson. pickfairproject@ci.austin.tx.us.

BIG & LITTLE ADVENTURES (See Thursday, 1/13.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Champion Gallery, Gallery Black Lagoon

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Gantz @ Arbor, @ Metropolitan, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Dark Water Hymnal CD Release Mohawk
The Sour Notes Cactus Cafe
Amy Cook, David Garza Lamberts

ongoing

'CORRECTIVE RAPE' IN SOUTH AFRICA: SIGN THE PETITION Lesbians raped to "cure" them. It's Change.org's largest-ever petition. Let's make it even larger. www.change.org/petitions.

APPLIANCE REBATE PROGRAM If you're in the market for a new energy-saving appliance, now is the time to start thinking about buying. Texans can call or go online to sign up for rebates on a first-come, first-served basis. If things go according to plan, you'll be able to take that rebate to a local store and purchase the appliance and receive money back. Go online for more details and limitations; they are numerous. 877/780-3039. www.texaspowerfulsmart.org.

BONUS FOR HVAC UPGRADES If you're planning on upgrading your heating or cooling systems or perhaps just sealing your house for increased efficiency, go to the Austin Energy website for a quick before and after energy audit. Jump through the right hoops, and you could be getting a nice rebate check in addition to the savings on energy bills. www.austinenenergy.com.

Kate X Messer (Gay Place):
gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports): gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

James Renovitch (everything else):
calendar@austinchronicle.com.

For FAQs and an online submission form, go to austinchronicle.com/commform.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

COMMUNICATE QUEERLY Finally! A socially intricate yet easy-to-use Web presence designed to "help foster communication and planning within the queer community to avoid competing events." Thank you, Poochie. Go check it out, and load up all your events. Now! What are you waiting for? Free. www.communicatequeerly.com, www.facebook.com/communicateATX.

EXTENDED METERED PARKING SURVEY A proposal would extend parking meter hours to 8am to midnight, Monday to Saturday. Take the survey and let the city know how you like your parking. Through Jan. 18. www.downtownaustinsurvey.com.

FREE CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING Don't throw away the symbol of the season; compost it. Gosh will mulch your tree anytime during business hours. *Organics by Gosh, 13602 FM 969, 276-1211. Free.* www.organicsbygosh.com.

FREE SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES Pets whose owners live within certain Austin ZIP codes are eligible for a free rabies shot, collar and tag, a microchip, and spay/neuter services. Call to check your eligibility and to schedule an appointment. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez, 587-7729. Free.

LOVE IS LOUDER Actress Brittany Snow, the Jed Foundation, and MTV channel the online support in the wake of this past September's teen suicides. Check out their contest. loveisloudercontest@gmail.com, www.loveislouder.com.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD DRIVE Visit one of 57 participating H-E-B, Central Market, or Randalls groceries to participate in this benefit for the **Capital Area Food Bank** either by making a cash donation or by buying a prepackaged bag of food for donation to someone in need. See www.souperbowl.org for participating locations. Through Feb. 6.

upcoming

BEARRACUDA Bear Ups and SF's Bearracuda present a big weekend in Austin, featuring Christeene, boyshapedbox, DJ Matt Consola, and Sam Storicks. Bears all weekend strong. (Don't "load" up on too many carbs that night; save room for the HoT Bears' Trailer Trash Bear Brunch the next day at the Chain Drive. Check next week for more details.) Sat., Jan. 22, 9pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$10 (\$8, advance). www.ndvenue.com.

CANCER CONNECTION VOLUNTEER TRAINING is for cancer survivors and their loved ones who are inter-

ested in providing emotional support to patients currently battling the disease. Apply online at www.thecancerconnection.org. Fri., Feb. 11, 5:45-9pm; Sat., Feb. 12, 8:45am-4pm. 342-0233. \$25 (scholarships available).

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY Learn about the many functions and operating procedures of the Austin Police Department. The next session starts Feb. 15 and meets on *Tuesdays, 6:45-10pm*. For more info or an application, visit the APD website, www.cityofaustin.org/police. For Associate News Editor Nora Ankrum's experience with the program, see "My Semester on the Beat," News, Dec. 1, 2006. 854-4989. vincente.galloway@co.travis.tx.us.

HOMELESS COUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ECHO, a coalition of local organizations working to end homelessness, needs help tallying local homeless in parks, campsites, or other public spaces. Training will be provided for the teams of volunteers before hitting the streets. Go online to sign up now. *Sun., Jan. 23, 305-4100.* dperkings@frontsteps.org, www.traviscountyhomelesscount.org.

HRC LOVE FEST It's coming up on HRC's annual gala, and this year, its proximity to V-Day (you know: hearts, flowers, lube ...) should encourage spontaneous outbursts of luv luv luv all over the place. Watch this space for info about this year's awardees, and get your tickets before they go up in price. *Sat., Feb. 12, 6:30-10:30pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. \$275; discounted to \$225 until Dec 31.* www.hraustin.org.

OFFICIAL BEARRACUDA WEEKEND KICKOFF Sneak peek at the new bear bar, just in time for Bearracuda weekend. *Fri., Jan. 21, 8pm. Iron Bear, 121 W. Eighth.*

TEXAS NORML ACTIVIST TRAINING CAMP The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws hosts this seminar that teaches everything you need to know to stand up for your beliefs. Topics include online activism, talking to your legislator, and knowing your rights. *Sat., Jan. 22, 1:30pm. Brave New Books, 1904-B Guadalupe (downstairs), 585-3846. Free.* www.texasnorml.org.

WHY YOU SHOULD GIVE A DAMN ABOUT GAY MARRIAGE Author Davina Kotulski presents her book, *Love Warriors: The Rise of the Marriage Equality Movement and Why It Will Prevail*. *Thu., Jan. 27, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785.* www.ebookwoman.com.

Monday, January 17, 2011
UT program starts at 9am
MLK Festival @ Huston-Tillotson
8th & Chalmers
immediately follows march



The Austin Area Heritage Council is planning a Cultural Festival which will begin after the March and last until 4pm; it will include all types of vendors and local musical artists making this year's celebration the best!
Featuring: Les & the Funk Mob, Bavu Blakes, and Nelson Saga

For questions and information, please contact Carol Wright at (512) 323-6773 ext. 102.

2011 MLK CELEBRATION
SHARE · DREAM · LIVE



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Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

arts listings



Imagine a theory of everything. An idea that encompasses everything we see happening on both a cosmic and molecular level. The truth of what lies behind all things. The reason for

being. That's what Felix Humble, a student of theoretical astrophysics, wants to find, so he leaves his home to study until, seven years later, the death of his father brings him home.

That's the jumping-off point for Charlotte Jones' family comedy, a play obviously inspired by *Hamlet*, with a climactic fencing scene (albeit without foils) and actual lines from Shakespeare's play. And the tragic plot, of course, with Felix's mother "married" to a man that her son despises, a love interest whose father disapproves of Felix, a ghost, and a truly dotty female Polonius. But while you'll find the structure of Shakespeare's tragedy here, you won't find tragedy. Jones' approach to the story is almost entirely comedic. For Jones, unlike Shakespeare, life is great fun even when somebody ends up dead.

As with so many live theatre productions in the Austin area, the great strength of Different Stages' production can be found in the acting. Jones requires Felix to stutter on and off – his stutter incites the action of the play, when he cannot speak at his father's funeral and runs away – and Tom Stephan works Felix's stutter so that Jones' lines never get lost. Stephan also transitions easily and believably between stuttering and speaking normally, and he sometimes even manages to channel a bit of that most famous prince. Norman Blumensaadt brings a gentle, fascinated, knowing vulnerability to the role of the gardener, Felix's friend and protector, making the scientific names

of plants sound like great poetry. Suzanne Balling knows what she wants and goes after it as Jones' Ophelia, Rosie. Jennifer Underwood does exactly what you would expect her to do: deliver a perfect diva gravitas in the role of Flora, Felix's mother. And Susan Roberts as Mercy Lott, Flora's well-meaning but scattered sidekick, has a scene in which she makes a startling discovery and must do a few dozen or so things to cover it up. Roberts' doing of these things results in moments of comic brilliance.

While the acting is the great strength of the production, it's also one of its weaknesses. Jones has written a funny and, in many ways, lovely story, but the actors didn't always play this strong material well on opening night. Lines seemed to get lost, especially in the second act, and the tempo flagged on more than one occasion. Director Jonathan Urso's staging sometimes wasn't helpful, as the actors seemed disconnected from one another at times when they should have been connected. This seeming disconnection could have been a lack of rehearsal or an actor simply not knowing the lines well enough. Or it could have been first-night jitters. In any case, the show will most certainly get tighter. When you assemble talented actors and pair them with an effective comedic rendering of the greatest story of all time, then mix in theoretical astrophysics and a hive of lively bees, something sweet is certain to occur.

– Barry Pineo

theatre

OPENING

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST Oscar Wilde's classic comedy gets an outing by Austin Playhouse and a cast of fine actors under the direction of Don Toner. *Jan. 14-Feb. 13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$26-35. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA SHOW: HOCKEY Your hosts **Mike Graupmann** and **Ralph Anthony** (and their regular cadre of infotainment specialists) lead some mighty talented Austinites – **Mary Jo Pehl**, **L.B. Deyo**, **Jess Sauer**, **Nat Miller**, and the obtrusively Canadian **Colin Tait** – in celebrating the sport in ways you might never have imagined. *Thu., Jan. 13, 8pm. ND at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$6. www.encyclopediaashowatx.com.*

GOING WITH JENNY Penfold Theatre kicks off its north-of-the-city adventure with this comedy about a young married couple who grapple with deep-rooted anxiety over domestic life, fleeting youth, regrets, fidelity, and the idea that a person's life can hinge on one hasty decision. Written by Thomas and Sherry Jo Ward, directed by Ryan Crowder. *Jan. 14-30. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Round Rock Public Library, 216 E. Main, Round Rock. 850-4849. \$18-25. www.penfoldtheatre.org.*

PLANET OF THE MERMAIDS The Electronic Planet Ensemble – **David Jewell**, **Chad Salvata**, **Sergio Samayoa**, and **Rachel Fuhrer**, who brought us *Surfin' UFO* and *Spaceman:Dada:Robot* – returns with a music-driven, video-enhanced phantasmagoria featuring Jewell as Captain Rex Vydor, the brave space commander who encounters the Mer Queen and her beautiful minions in this spoof of silent films and sci-fi B-movies. Recommended. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 14-29, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

THE LADY PIRATES OF CAPTAIN BREE This musical comedy by Martin A. Follse and Bill Francoeur is directed by Engela Edwards. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 14-22, 7:30pm. Extra show: Sun., Jan. 23, 2pm. Bastrop Opera House, 711 Spring St., Bastrop, 512/321-6283. \$8-10 (\$5, ages 14 and younger). www.bastropoperahouse.com.*

AYN RAND'S ANTHEM This new adaptation (with words, music, and projections) by Jeff Britting is presented by Austin Shakespeare, with Helen Merino, Colin Bjork, and Michael Dalmon under the direction of Ann Ciccolella. *Jan. 19-23. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3 & 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 457-5100. www.austinshakespeare.org.*

CLOSING

A NIGHT OF HORROR Two plays by David Skeeel are offered by the Chaotic Theatre Company, directed by Justin LaVergne. *Through Jan. 15. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$15. www.chaotictheatre.org.*

ONGOING

RUMORS The Way Off Broadway Players out Leander way revive the Neil Simon comedy, directed by Christien Bumpus. *Through Jan. 29. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., Jan. 16, 3pm. 11880 West FM 2243, Leander, 512/259-5878. \$20 (\$15, students). www.wobcp.org.*

HUMBLE BOY Charlotte Jones play, directed by Jonathan Urso. See review, left. *Through Jan. 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 474-8497. \$15-30. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

AUDITIONS

ROUGH MAGIC ACC Drama Department is casting this comedy by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa (the writer of HBO's *Big Love*), to be directed by David "The Red Balloonist" Yeakle. Men and women are sought for this adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Call for details. *Thu., Jan. 20, 7pm. ACC Mainstage Theatre, 1212 Rio Grande. 223-3240.*

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAFE CAFFEINE 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.

ComedySportz Competitive improv? Yes, a vigorous battle between skilled improvisers – sort of like *Highlander* but unscripted – and maestro **Les McGehee** and his talented friends bring it in full force each weekend to one of the sweetest little coffeehouses in the 78704. *Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30pm. \$7.*

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Jim Norton Norton's had an hourlong stand-up show (*Monster Rain*) on HBO, he's adored by millions via Sirius Radio's *Opie & Anthony*, he's written a couple of bestselling books, he can escape New Jersey any time he wants, and he's known for "raunchy" humor. But what we like most is that he insists, "The only labels in comedy that truly matter are 'funny,' 'original,' and 'hack.'" Damned straight, and **Bryson Turner** opens. *Jan. 20-22. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Sean Patton He's a fresh comedy fixture in NYC and has been featured at Montreal's Just for Laughs Festival, yes, and "his comedy focuses more on originality, personal perspective, and tales glorifying the beauty of human flaws rather than the classic punchline joke telling." **Chris Bliss** opens. *Jan. 13-15. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. www.coldtownetheater.com.

The Week in Coldness: Play is ... an improvised play! *Thu., 8:30pm. The P! Company* presents its video-enhanced sketch-comedy revue. *Thu., 10pm. Mainstage Sketch Lab* promises to make good on ColdTowne's sketch-supremacy agenda. *Fri., 8pm. Live at ColdTowne* is the house flavor of stand-up comedy, featuring some of Austin's best. *Fri., 10pm. Stool Pigeon* Improv sparked by the real-life stories of one of the troupe. *Sat., 8pm. Cage Match* Two improv teams go all *lucha libre* on each other for your grins and giggles. *Sat., 9pm. Midnight Society* and, yes, the everlovin' **Frank Mills**, together again! *Sat., 10pm. The Late Night Show* with **Dick Rambuck** and **Secret Senate**. *Sat., 11pm.* Oh, and there are **Free Shows on Sunday Night!** Check them out, citizen. *Sun., 7 & 8pm.* Also, the **Monday Night Mash** happens each week, also with free admission, and can you guess the night on which it occurs at 8:30pm? And now there's **Comedy on Wednesday!**, too, with Those ColdTowne Boys and special guests. *Wed., 8:30pm.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies The popular troupe's "Best of 2010 Comedy in Review" brings the Gospel of Shopping with the All-Snuggie Choir, Sarah Palin's Austin Wildlife Special, Cleo's musical revenge in "The Queen of the Nile," and the return of "Sam I Am," Dr. Seuss' love-starved duo. Also, Ray Anderson's thrilling "The Impaler" illusion offers you a few pointers in awe-inspiring spectacle. Attendance (and reservations) recommended. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20-27 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). \$45-55.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

Thursday: The **Threefer** brings you three troupes in one night: **My Friend Stripey**, **Journey to the Big Water**, and **Rachel & Dave**. *8pm. \$10.*

Friday: Pick Your Own Path is so-called because it's like an *adventure*, see, where you choose what happens next, improv-style. *8pm. \$10. The Spectacle* brings you hilarious sets by **PGraph** and **The Glamping Trip**. *10pm. \$10. \$10.*

Saturday: Austin Secrets So many intimate details revealed about your friends and neighbors, turned into instant improv skits, no wonder this show is always packed. See review, p.53. *8pm. \$10. Maestro* is a fierce, elimination-style battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. *10pm. \$10.*

Sunday: The Weekender Just a five-spot gets you some sharp entertainment, with **Nice Astronaut** and a student showcase. *7pm.*

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Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor. brenner@austinchronicle.com.

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Open Mic Night Hosted by **Kat Ramzinski** this week. *Thu., Jan. 13, 9:30pm.*

Albert Im The man had to ditch Hawaii and go through Chicago to get here, but since then he's been a regular stand-up stage fiend in clubs all over the Lone Star State, now stoked to rock the Cheese Palace mic with **Sean Mooney** and **Kat Ramzinski** opening. Yes: stoked. *Thu.-Sat., Jan. 14-15, 9:30 & 11:30pm.*

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

KICK BUTT COMEDY OPEN MIC Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.

MOTHER PLUCKIN' COMEDY OPEN MIC **Mike Navarrete** and **Chance Royce** host this free-for-all, and they're offering prizes for funny people. Mondays, following Monday Night Football. Pluckers, 9070 Research #201-C. 533-9464. Free. www.pluckers.com.

AUSTIN SKETCH FEST: OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS The second annual Austin Sketch Fest, featuring acts from all over the country, will rock this town on Memorial Day weekend. See website for details. Submission fee: \$10 (\$15, after Jan. 15). Deadline: Feb. 1. Mailing address: ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, Austin, TX 78751. www.atksketchfest.com.

TIKI TUESDAYS @ CHERRYWOOD Local funnyman **Seth Cockfield** hosts an open mic where anybody can do a short set, but some of the city's top comedy talents break in their new material. Tuesdays, 10pm. Cherrywood Coffeehouse, 1400 E. 38th½.

THE NEW MOVEMENT Acclaimed comedy instructors **Chris Trew** and **Tami Nelson** execute their brand of hijinks with talented friends and disciples. You want comedy? See website for details, yes, but look: **Improv Zero** is a free intro-to-improv class. *Wed., 7pm. The Shootaround Wed., 8pm. The Megaphone Show* puts a local celeb onstage to spin tales of true truth before being interviewed and instantly improvised upon. *Wed., 9:30pm. Free. Delta Burka with Ames and James Thu., 8pm. Block Party* It's the NM's free open mic, hosted by Sam Pitchel and James Patrick Robinson. *Thu., 9:30pm. Lamebook Fri., 8pm. Bare Moxie* It's the troupe's first birthday! *Fri., 9:30pm. Pizza Party Inc.* Free pizza and sets by **Spirit Desire**, **Chris & Tami**, and **Delta Burka**. *Sat., 8pm. Pizza Party Inc.* Free pizza and sets by **Milo and Shyla**, **Control Group**, and **Ghost Prom**. *Sat., 9:30pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood. www.newmovementtheater.com.*



PATTON OSWALT Is he one of the country's best comedians, or is he the patron saint of geeks? Is he the stand-up stage's version of Joss Whedon, or is Whedon just a more narrative Oswalt? If Spider-Man had to pee really bad, and, like, he couldn't make it to a toilet in time, and he was fighting the Absorbing Man and peed on *him* ... would even that be as funny as Patton Oswalt's take on pop culture, religion, and general human idiocy? Doubtful. And doubtful that there'll be

decent seats left unless you make reservations *five minutes ago*. *Sat., Jan. 15, 8pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$40. www.austintheatre.org.*

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Two Gnap!tastic improv troupes, one after the other. This weekend, the **Walk Ons** take the stage, and then it's time for the **Knuckleball Now**. *Sat., Jan. 15, 10pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.gnaptheater.org.*

dance

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE: DANCERS AND ACTORS AUDITIONS Dance apprentices are invited to audition for this exciting troupe. Call or e-mail for details or to schedule an appointment. *Through Jan. 31. 251-8122. www.prfdance.org/auditions.htm.*

BUENOS AIRES CAFE: UNA NOCHE PORTEÑA Tango and folklore singer Daniel Montserrat performs weekly. *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Buenos Aires Cafe, 1201 E. Sixth, 382-1189. Free. www.buenosairescafe.com.*

MELISSA AMIRA'S CAROUSEL CARAVAN Jeanette hosts this monthly shimmy, featuring a host of hot belly dancers in one of Austin's coolest bars. CDs, DVDs, and costumes for sale. *Every third Saturday, 8pm. Carousel Lounge, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790. Free. www.carouselounge.net.*

classical music

OPENING

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Eri Lee Lam, violin, and Vincent Lam, piano, perform works by Ravel, Chausson, Bolcom, and Beethoven. *Thu., Jan. 13, 7pm. Alma Thomas Theatre. Free. New Standards: Women in Orchestras* Western Michigan University's Lin Foulk, associate professor of music, talks about the evolving roles of women in modern orchestras. *Tue., Jan. 18, 7pm. Caldwell-Carvey Foyer, Fine Arts Center. Free. TubaCOR* Lin Foulk, horn; Deanna Swoboda, tuba; and Kiyoshi Tamagawa, piano, perform Elizabeth Raum's newly commissioned "Color Code." *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm. Alma Thomas Theatre. Free. 512/863-1504. www.southwestern.edu/sarofim.*

CLASSICAL MUSIC ON SIXTH STREET The Monarch Ensemble brings classic works to the nightlife of Sixth and the relaxed atmosphere of the East Side Show Room. *Sun., Jan. 16, 6-8pm. East Side Show Room, 1100 E. Sixth, 467-4280. Free. www.eastsideshowroom.com.*

FronteraFest 2011



Yes, theatre lovers, here it is again, for the 18th(!) time: the annual, multipartite, fairly overwhelming, five-week performance festival that brings in people from all over the city, the state, and beyond, featuring short plays, weird musical numbers, spoken-word assaults, terpsichorean treats, improv comedy, scripted tragedy, compelling monologues, odd brilliances, a thing or two you might hope to never see the likes of again, and the usual salmagundi of unfettered creativity on a live stage.

There's the **Short Fringe** at Hyde Park Theatre, starting on Jan. 11, in which each night brings five or so short acts until Saturday night showcases the five chosen as the best of that week, all the way until it's a weeklong Best-Of festival. (Those Saturdays, that final week, them's what we unreservedly recommend the hell out of, btw.) And there's the **Long Fringe** at various venues, starting on Jan. 17, which is pretty much regular-length and/or fully complex plays that please themselves to be presented under the FronteraFest umbrella of (implied, at least) goodness. Then there's **Bring Your Own Venue** and **Mi Casa Es Su Teatro**, about which more later. Right now, here's what's available this week – but of course there's more online, especially at the HPT website: www.hydeparktheatre.org

SHORT FRINGE

THURSDAY, JAN. 13, 8PM: **Route 307** by Rupert Reyes; **Dirty, Nerdy, and Unemployed** by Jacob Dodson; the comedy improv of **Elevator Action**; **The Priceless Slave** by Johnny Meyer; **4-Hole Punch** by Kerri Lendo, Lashonda Lester, and Maggie Maye.

FRIDAY, JAN. 14, 8PM: **Hope on the Horizon** by Blacklisted Individuals; **Sliding Sideways** by Suzanne Chesshire; sketch comedy from (the highly recommended) **Turn of the Century Paris**; **Leave No Marks** by Natalie Gaupp; **You Don't See** by Bridgette and Madeline Tuckfield; **Cuentos Con Consuelo** by Consuelo Samarripa.

SATURDAY, JAN. 15, 8PM: **Best of the Week**, of course, but also the **Opening Party**.

TUESDAY, JAN. 18, 8PM: **The Internet Casanova** by Weird City Theatre; **Hurricane Elizabeth** by Bernadette Nason; **You Gonna Go Lo?** by Stephen Ross; **Peter and the Wolf** by Amelia Turner and Tim Doyle; **There Is No Us or Them** by Norm Ballinger.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19, 8PM: **Schadenfreude** by Jason Rainey; **The Dying Sun** by Philip Kreyche and Michael Palace; **Crazy Bett** by Paullette MacDougal; **Victrola**, an improv-in-the-dark troupe led by David Lee Hess; **La Frontera de la Ansiedad Política** by Johnny Meyer.

THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 8PM: **Dressed for Church** by Lauren Hayes; **Allergies** by Chaotic Theatre; **Fitzgeralds for Hire** by Kaci Beeler and Curtis Luciani; **The Fall of John Fisher** by Jon Cook & Taylor Kirk; **They Burned the Shanty Down (for Me)** by Kristin Henn.



TYLER JONES AND ANTOINETTE ROBINSON ARE ONLY TWO OF THE SHAKESPEARE-LOVING SUPERHEROES IN CAPITAL T THEATRE'S *SPIRITS TO ENFORCE*, PART OF THE LONG FRINGE AT THE BLUE THEATRE.

LONG FRINGE

Spirits to Enforce Capital T Theatre presents Mickie Maher's comedy in which 12 superheroes take up residence in a secret submarine to hold a fundraising drive for their upcoming production of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. [Editor's note: Oh, we're so fucking there for this one!] *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 8pm; Fri., Jan. 28, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 30, 1pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale.*

Cardigan by Trey Deason, presented by Purple Crayon Theatre, is about a man who's either a world-renowned author and university professor – beloved by his students, courted by publishers, and desired by women – or he's a pathological liar compensating for life's disappointments by indulging in a world of fiction. *Thu., Jan. 20, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 2:15pm; Thu., Jan. 27, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 29, 5:45pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.*

Case 146: The Rattler's Curse is an Ifandor production of E.S. Cuny's dark noir-style comedy set in South Texas, in which a private dick investigates the death of an employee at a forgotten military facility. *Tue., Jan. 18, 7pm; Fri., Jan. 21, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 10:15pm; Thu., Jan. 27, 7pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale.*

Dancing on Sacred Ground This multimedia show from Komo Danceworks features live music composed by Erich Avinger, Steve Bernal, Amy Annelle, and Adam Sultan, and choreography for six dancers: **Rune Light**, an evocation of Norse mysticism. *Thu., Jan. 20, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 6:30pm; Sat., Jan. 23, 2:15pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.*

The Incredible Shrinking Man It figures that Tongue & Groove Theater is the company to adapt Richard Matheson's 1957 sci-fi movie, with original music performed live by Justin Shernburn and direction by David Yeakle. Mime, dance, acting, puppetry, and original visual art? Yes. *Wed., Jan. 19, 9pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 11pm; Fri., Jan. 28, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 29, 4:15pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.*

Let's Make Love Tonight! Annie La Ganga's solo comedy show, is "a fun, candid, irreverent exploration of love, sex, and long-term relationships," based on audience suggestions and the performer's menstrual cycle. *Tue., Jan. 18, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 5:15pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 8:30pm; Fri., Jan. 28, 8:30pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.*

Jennifer Kokai's **Lost Land**, presented by Wogglebug Theatre, is a story of love discovered and ultimately lost, spanning three centuries – from the 1950s to the year 2150 – and set in a nautical theme park inspired by *Moby Dick*. A whale of a tale of romantic fail, Ahab, for sure. *Wed., Jan. 19, 9:15pm; Fri., Jan. 21, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 4:45pm; Sat., Jan. 29, 5pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale.*

One Venus Hour Sheila Gordon's multicharacter solo show is a foray into the life of an American family broken apart by distance, economics, illness, and ideology. *Thu., Jan. 20, 8:45pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 1pm; Tue., Jan. 25, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 29, 7:15pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale.*

Howard Petrick's **Rambo: The Missing Years** is a solo show in which the playwright brings a cast of colorful characters to life as he recounts his misadventures confronting the military bureaucracy as a young anti-war GI. *Tue., Jan. 18, 9:15pm; Thu., Jan. 20, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 6:15pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 3pm. Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale.*

A Samuel Beckett Cabaret Fourthworld Theatre Projects celebrates absurdity and rejects regret. Or rejects absurdity. Or celebrates regret, or even regretting regret. And, oh hell – Beckett's *Krapp's Last Tape* is sandwiched between two perplexing shorts, *Catastrophe* and *Ohio Impromptu*, directed by Jared J. Stein and starring Rick Roemer. *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 3:15pm; Tue., Jan. 25, 9:15pm; Sun., Jan. 30, 1pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.*

Sometimes Callie and Jonas Die by Bastion Carboni, from Poison Apple Initiative. The title characters travel the country, racking up points based on the emotional devastation they wreak in each city. When they return to Seattle, they're confronted by those they left behind and the rules change. *Tue., Jan. 18, 8:45pm; Sat., Jan. 22, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 23, 4:30pm; Wed., Jan. 26, 9:15pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.*



Austin Secrets



The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 443-3688
www.hideouttheatre.com
 Through Feb. 19
 Running time: 1 hr., 30 min.

A secret's true power comes not from its hidden nature but from its being shared – if it doesn't reach someone else's ears, it's just a proverbial tree falling in the woods. Being in on a secret is like being a member of an elite club, part of the in

crowd. That's really the appeal of Frank Warren's phenomenon PostSecret: being allowed access to the thoughts, feelings, and stories that people are reticent to share with the intimate people in their lives, let alone strangers. People want to communicate. They want to feel that they belong to something beyond themselves. They want to know people share their trials and tribulations, hopes and fears. PostSecret has had unbelievable success as both an online and a real-life meeting place for the sharing of secrets, and it's this sense of sharing and community that really drives the Hideout Theatre's main-stage show *Austin Secrets*.

Austin Secrets isn't your normal improv show for a variety of reasons. The improvisers don't take suggestions – their inspiration comes from submitted secrets, some from the actual PostSecret website and others submitted directly to them from Austinites and audience members. The line between audience and cast is removed in a very natural way; when a new secret is introduced to the show, the cast gathers around to read from the same screen as the audience. Artistic Director Roy Janik acts as curator of the show, constantly discussing themes and ideas with the audience. The show actively uses the secrets in different ways. In an indirect way, the format reminds me of *This American Life*, with its varied acts, pleasantly earnest curator/host, and indie rock soundtrack.

Most importantly, Janik and the cast's goal in presenting these secrets is to respect the sentiment and courage behind them. This

might not seem that important when the secret revealed is "I really wish she would trim her nose hair more often." But when the topic is something like losing sexual attraction to an obese partner or losing a child, the gravitas comes out in the improv.

While improv is mainly associated with comedy, *Austin Secrets* goes uncomfortable, awkward, or sad when the inspiration requires it. During the Jan. 8 show, you could feel the audience sag a bit when a serious secret was treated in too silly a way and rise when the secret was given its potentially scary weight. To me, what makes improv so wonderful is not seeing people be spontaneously funny but seeing true theatre without a net. The most arresting moment of the night came on a secret about ignoring an old classmate who was now homeless on the street. I'm willing to bet the three heart-breaking seconds of the improvisers confronting two differing fortunes will stay with the audience more than the surrounding litany of laughs and jokes. It's a lot easier to be funny onstage than truthful, and seeing moments like that is an inspiration.

What truly makes *Austin Secrets* special is that it's an experience as much as a show. It's catharsis instead of schadenfreude. The audience reacts to the secrets as much as it reacts to the improv, and the show's construct actively tries to share revelations and reactions between the cast and the crowd. Revealing the truth can be a very difficult enterprise. *Austin Secrets* respects its source material and creates an honest, wonderful night of theatre. – Avimaan Syam

TEXAS PERFORMING ARTS: THE PARKER

QUARTET A bit younger than creative antecedents Hawthorne, Longfellow, and Emerson, the Parker Quartet (Daniel Chong, violin; Karen Kim, violin; Jessica Bodner, viola; Kee-Hyun Kim, cello), takes its name from a shared meeting place: the grand Omni Parker House in Boston, the city's venerable hotel and watering hole for great artists throughout history. This quartet of great artists arrives from its residencies with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Minnesota Public Radio, and American Public Media – not that those heady gigs keep the group from performing in bars and clubs in addition to classical halls. And, like that eclectic mix of performance spaces, the ensemble's repertoire strays to eclectic fare: Jazz, folk, and world music find their way into TPQ's stage shows. This UT show sees the contemporary classicists take on works by Dvorák (selections from "Cypresses"), Kurtág ("Twelve Microludes"), Hindemith ("Quartet No. 4, Op. 22 (1921)"), and Beethoven (Quartet No. 4 in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2"). Stick around for the post-show talk with the artists. *Thu., Jan. 20, 8pm. McCullough Theatre, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060. \$22 (\$10, students; other discounts available). www.texasperformingarts.org.*

visual arts

EVENTS

ROI JAMES AT MCCALLUM The popular artist (and, especially at this event, philanthropist) will be honored at McCallum High School's Fine Arts Showcase this night. *Thu., Jan. 13, 6:30pm. McCallum Theatre, 5600 Sunshine.*

OPENING

ACCESS GALLERY: A COMMUNITY OF NON-NORMATIVE BEINGS A sculptural installation of inflated polyethylene plastic and sewn polyester organza by Janet Morrow. Reception: *Mon., Jan. 17, noon-5pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 25. 3701 Guadalupe #103, 323-6626. www.vsatx.org.*

BUTRIDGE GALLERY: ANDREW LONG The artist's new "Done, Undone" exhibition features 25 new abstracts, delivering a twist on the use of color as the paintings are richly layered and then scraped back. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 13, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Jan. 29. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 974-4000. www.andrewlong.net.*

GRAYDUCK GALLERY: DEPARTURE This group show features work by Ute Bertog, Melissa Breitenfeldt, Jennifer Chenoweth, and Court Lurie. Reception: *Fri., Jan. 14, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 13. 608-C W. Monroe, 826-5334. www.grayduckgallery.com.*

INCARNATION: CAUSATION AND NON-CAUSATION OF THE UNIVERSE AND MULTIVERSE Gallery Black Lagoon presents this show of new paintings and drawings by Ryan Davis. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 20, 7-10pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 28. 4301-A Guadalupe, 371-8838. www.galleryblacklagoon.com.*

LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER Free admission during January, as the center premieres a display of landscapes in Antarctica, South America, and more, from the lens of a man with a lifelong passion for photography: **Bill Nowlin**. RSVP for reception. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 13, 5:30-7:30pm. Exhibition: Through Jan. 30. Thu., Jan. 13. 4801 La Crosse, 512/232-0100. www.wildflower.org/exhibits.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: OUT OF PLACE UT's Noah Simblist curates this exhibition of compelling work – video, film, photography, mixed-media sculpture – by six international artists. Yael Bartana, Nida Sinnokrot, Jan Tichy, Eric Van Hove, Tom Molloy, and Oded Hirsch "explore placelessness as it is manifest in Israel-Palestine." Reception: *Sat., Jan. 15, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through March 5. 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: WURA-NATASHA OGUNJI The artist's large-scale paintings, delicately stitched drawings on architectural tracing paper, and videos explore connections to place, history, and memory, in "The Epic Crossing of an Ife Head." Reception: *Thu., Jan. 13, 6-8pm. The Ancestor and the Archive, performances by Ogunji and guests: Thu., Jan. 20, 7-10pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 17. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

CHAMPION GALLERY: ORNAMENT OF SAVAGE

TRIBES Austin artist Erin Curtis' large-scale paintings and mixed-media drawings are explorations of architecture, abstraction, and decoration. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 20, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 19. 800 Brazos, 354-1035. www.championcontemporary.com.*

ONGOING

AMOA: 20 YEARS OF FLATBED PRESS The Austin Museum of Art's celebrating a double-decade of local fine-art print powerhouse Flatbed Press with a retrospective that features work by **Julie Speed, Trenton Doyle Hancock, Terry Allen, Michael Ray Charles, Melissa Miller, James Surls**, and others. And "New Works by **Eric Zimmerman**." Recommended. *Through Feb. 12. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY Artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos St., 457-0171. www.pablataboadastudio.com.

ARTHOUSE This newly remodeled stunner of a visual-arts venue has a sweet array of exhibitions and artists' talks to delight and inform and confound you. **Jason Middlebrook: "More Art About Buildings and Food"** *Through Jan. 16. Sofia Cordova: "Fiebre Tropical"* *Through Jan. 16. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.*

AUSTIN ART GARAGE Original art by Austin artists. 2200-J S. Lamar, 351-5934. www.austinartgarage.com.

AUSTIN ART GLASS The glassblowing studio and gallery offers glass art, classes, and more. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

AUSTIN DETAILS + ART: BEST OF THE FESTS The proprietors daresay they've gathered all the best art from the various holiday festivals around town. *Through Jan. 31. 106 E. Eighth, 391-0999. www.austin-detailsart.com.*

BROCCA GALLERY: New works by Augusto Brocca, Mary Morse, Jeffrey Primeaux, Kathleen Wilson, Tom Bishop, and Marja Spearman. *Through Jan. 31. 1103 E. Sixth, 628-1306. www.broccagallery.com.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a Latino arts organization hosted here, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

D BERMAN GALLERY: 10TH ANNIVERSARY GROUP SHOW Many of the works can be bought for less than \$1,000, and the people responsible for them are **Malcolm Bucknall, Ellen Berman, Cynthia Camlin, Jimmy Jalapeño, Lance Letscher, George Krause, Lauren Levy, Marjorie Moore, Joseph Phillips, Belli Liu, Jana Swec**, and, wow, even more. *Through Jan. 22. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

JCC GALLERY: ARTHUR ROTHSTEIN Historical images from the famous photographer of the 1920s and 1930s. 7300 Hart, 735-8000. www.shalomaustrin.org.

L. NOWLIN GALLERY: STORYTELLING The gallery collaborates with the Austin Photography Group for this multiartist show featuring almost 40 Texas photographers. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 15, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 12. 1202-A W. Sixth, 626-9301. www.lnowlinggallery.com.*

LAUGHING CARDINAL GALLERY: RELIQUARY BOX An exhibition of works new, old, rediscovered, and reclaimed by Kelly Mae Newhouse. 2503-A E. Sixth.

MITCHIE'S GALLERY presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. 7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

Wait, you enjoy dance performances well enough, but you're really looking for dance classes?

We print those in our third issue of each month, but they're always available in the Dance Listings at austinchronicle.com/dance.

NEW EAST ARTS GALLERY Work from Black and Bluebird Studios, David Zvanut, Ed Watson, Erica Howard, Caminamos Juntos, and other fine local artists. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.

SCANLAN GALLERY: FLORA & FAUNA Thematic work by Melissa Miller, Linda Ridgway, Liz Ward, Nance Friese, and Madeline Irvine. 2900 Bunny Run, 327-1213. www.sstx.org.

STUDIO L: METAL ART STUDIO SHOW Behold the work of nationally known copper sculptor Daryl G. Colburn. Also, diverse metal media by Jacob Colburn, photography by Erin Waters, silver jewelry by Rita Marie Ross, and Sandy Muckleroy. 2309 Thornton, 577-3479. www.darylgcolburn.com.

STUDIO2GALLERY: LIBRARY FOLIAGE In this show, a massive volume of creative talents have interpreted humans' love for and relationships with books. *Through Jan. 22.* 1700 S. Lamar #318, 326-9102. www.studio2gallery.com.

YARD DOG FOLK ART: IAN MCLAGAN The musician wrangles sensation into the visual spectrum with "Paint from Pain." *Through Feb. 1.* 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

SPEAKING THE SPOKEN: THE ART OF VERSE Celebrate MLK Day at this annual open mic hosted by Zell Miller III and featuring members of the CIPHER, Xenoglia Spoken Word Collective, slam poets, and the Neo Slam team's Ebony Stewart. Come to speak your minds, your spirits, and your hearts. *Mon., Jan. 17, 7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. www.vortexrep.org.*

THE STORY DEPARTMENT It's not a reading, but you'll hear stories. It's not stand-up, but you'll probably laugh. It's a monthly series of storytelling evenings to benefit Austin Bat Cave, and admission includes free Shiner Bock. January's theme: Resolutions. *Thu., Jan. 13, 7:30pm. Austin AMP, 411 W. Monroe. \$10. www.austinbatcave.org.*

DAVID E. HILTON debuts with a riveting portrayal of lost innocence in *Kings of Colorado*. *Thu., Jan. 13, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

BEDPOST CONFESSIONS It's another evening of stories about sex, sexuality, and the steamy side of life. This month's show will be emcee'd by Sadie Smythe and include performances by Sara Gray, Rosie Q, Raven Hinojosa, Claire Evora, Monique Daviau, and rapper MC Sex. Also, giveaways from Good Vibrations and Wet Lubricants. *Thu., Jan. 13, 8-10pm. United States Art Authority, 2906 Fruth, 480-9562. www.bedpostconfessions.com.*

GEORGE ARNOLD AND KEN SQUIER These longtime Austinites have a mystery set in Central Texas in their *Enigma*. *Fri., Jan. 14, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

CHRISTIAN LANDER *Whiter Shades of Pale* is a brave attempt at dealing with the increasingly vexing problems of white people. *Fri., Jan. 14, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

LOCAL AUTHOR LAURA KRAACK presents her new Young Adult novel, *Stonewater*. *Sat., Jan. 15, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

PATTON OSWALT lifts off in his hilarious memoir/philosophical typographic treatise *Zombie Spaceship Wasteland*. While the talk is free to attend, books must be purchased from BookPeople for signing. Wristbands for the signing line will be available at 9am the morning of the event. *Sat., Jan. 15, 2pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

LOCAL AUTHOR NIGHT Here: Sidney Frost and Jennifer Hritz present their respective novels, *Where Love Once Lived* and *I, Too, Have Suffered in the Garden*. *Sat., Jan. 15, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

ELLEN SCHREIBER presents the latest entry in her Vampire Kisses series: *Once in a Full Moon*. *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

BRAVE NEW WORDS Brian Roberts hosts a discussion of social structure and current events. *Mon., Jan. 17, 7pm. Brave New Books, 1904-B Guadalupe (downstairs), 480-2503. www.bravenewbookstore.com.*

Looking for more Book Groups or Open Mics? See those sections in the Litera Listings at austinchronicle.com/litera.

SHAKESPEARE ALOUD Austin Shakespeare reads an entire play aloud (like, an act each week) and stops often to discuss the images, characters, and story. *Sundays, 5-7pm. Greater Austin Creative Alliance, 701 Tillery, Box 9, 247-2531. \$5. www.austinshakespeare.org.*

GRAPHIC NOVELS CLUB bones up on *BodyWorld* by Dash Shaw. *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm. Halcyon, 218 W. Fourth, 472-9637. www.halcyonaustin.com.*

BOOKPEOPLE CLUBS Inspired Reads praises *Poor People* by William T. Vollman. *Sun., Jan. 16, 1pm. This Book Could Be Your Life* punks *Just Kids* by Patti Smith. *Sun., Jan. 16, 5pm. Ludicrous Speed* pulls *The Strain* by Guillermo Del Toro. *Mon., Jan. 17, 7pm. Stranger Than Fiction* phreaks with *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt. *Wed., Jan. 19, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

OPEN MICS

BOOKWOMAN POETRY features Austin stalwart John Berry. Hosted by Deb Akers. *Thu., Jan. 13, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785. Free. www.ebookwoman.com.*

CAFE CAFFEINE Hosted by Julian Enoch Bruno, Chris Corsbie, and Patrick Boswell. *Wednesdays, 6-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.cafecaffeine.com.*

FAIR BEAN *Fridays, 5-7pm. Fair Bean Coffee, 2210-I S. First, 444-BEAN. www.fairbeancoffee.com.*

THE HIDEOUT BJ Soto astonishes with her multimedia repertoire. *Mondays, 6-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). www.hideouttheatre.com.*

SPOKEN & HEARD ASL interpreter available. *Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. www.kickbuttcffee.com.*

RUTA MAYA POETRY Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *a road scarf for Allen & Jack five roads six medians an old Jew prays for a good stretch of highway & a fine bowler hat brought from Houston a blues club on Sixth Street before there was a scene when the possibility of a razor being whipped out was real enough but the light was too bright & the place was dead we ordered barbeque & a pitcher of Shiner & left as a young guitarist noodled to tune i saw Ginsberg two other times & never once thought he read worth a damn. Namaste. Build your own road.*

CAFE CON LETRAS is a Spanish-language forum of music, poetry, drama, short films, art and more, led by the Latin American Cultural Alliance. Everyone is invited to get involved, but it's not an open mic. To be considered as a guest artist, contact the Latin American Cultural Alliance. *Every third Sunday of each month. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$5 (free, ages 15 and younger). www.alianzacultural.net.*

POEM OF THE ISSUE

Hey, Donkey

You over there with the knit cap

Yeah, I'm talkin' to you

You with the windbreaker on

No, not windtalker, windbreaker

You over there with the smell

Coming off from your underarms

Over there scoring some pot

Over there with the curly hair

And the Franco-Prussian mustache

Yeah, you're the one I'm talkin' to

Got a match?

— Jill Bingamon,
"Franco-Prussian Mustache"

‘Angie Renfro: Industry!’



Wally Workman Gallery, 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428
www.wallyworkmangallery.com

Through Jan. 29

Alan Weisman's 2007 book, *The World Without Us*, shows how, just days after humans disappear, "floods in New York's subways would start eroding the city's foundations, and how, as the world's cities

crumble, asphalt jungles give way to real ones." But you needn't go full-on apocalyptic, or even as far afield as the Big Apple, to peek a glimpse of what the start of such a thing might resemble. You could spend a pleasant time in the Wally Workman Gallery right now, perusing "Industry!," painter Angie Renfro's realist oil-on-panel scenes of empty silos, rusting refineries, and other abandoned or temporarily fallow icons of heavy industry.

"Whether the subject is a bird on a telephone wire or an abandoned storage unit," says the artist, "there is a quality in my paintings that is at once lonely and captivating." She's not just whistling "Dixie" there — or, if she is, it's "Dixie" as whistled faintly in empty, wind-breached factories by ghosts of the Confederate dead. Renfro's works are the epitome of lonely and captivating, rendered in such a way that the various layers of her process are allowed to interbleed and influence the final image with stains and drips and industrial roughness, as if the

paintings themselves were already in a state of unattended decay. Images of long-halted trains, bridges devoid of anyone crossing, and, especially, telephone poles and (bird-burdened or not) wires; all these methods of communication and interchange, once thriving, now unused, serve to relay the artist's vision to viewers in this (so far) still-peopled world.

From Renfro's exhibition-accompanying statement: "My inspiration is derived primarily from long road trips across Texas. ... My intention is that by drawing attention to such objects, the viewer too, will appreciate their quiet unassuming beauty." If you're reading this in Austin, which is likely, you don't have to undertake a long road trip to see what she's talking about here. Just travel a few of the city's streets — the city's vibrant streets, happily and busily crowded with living, breathing humans of all kinds! — until you get to the Workman Gallery and this superlative collection of "lorn and loan and oansome" splendor. — Wayne Alan Brenner

For Visual Arts Spaces
& Creative Opportunities, check out
austinchronicle.com/visualarts.

film listings



Rabbit Hole

D: John Cameron Mitchell; with Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart, Dianne Wiest, Tammy Blanchard, Miles Teller, Sandra Oh, Giancarlo Esposito, Jon Tenney. (PG-13, 92 min.)

Although it is achingly sad, *Rabbit Hole* is not maudlin or depressing. Adapted by David Lindsay-Abaire from his play, the film ushers us into the lives of Becca (Kidman) and Howie (Eckhart) Corbett, parents who are grieving the death of their child eight months earlier and trying to find a way to resume “normal” life.

They are stuck in their loss, and neither the routines of daily life nor the solicitations of family and friends bring any relief. It does not help matters either that they find no comfort in each other; each one holds the grief close in a protective bubble that serves as a shield against emotional collapse and a barrier from re-entry into the stream of life. Becca is efficient and bitter, removing her son's paintings from the refrigerator door and gathering all his clothing to give to her newly pregnant sister (Blanchard). Howie finds some comfort in repeatedly watching the video clip of his son that still remains on his cell phone and in the familiarity of a bereavement support group. This material could have been mawkish and tearjerking, and it is to the film's credit that it avoids this subject matter's obvious pitfalls. The restraint is all the more surprising because of its direction by Mitchell, whose two previous films, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* and *Shortbus*, are celebrated for their flamboyance and hyperbole. As Mitchell rises to the occasion, so do the actors: *Rabbit Hole* is a finely detailed ensemble showcase. The interplay



of the characters, the push and pull of their words and gestures are beautifully wrought and altogether human. This is certainly one of Kidman's best performances, and, in a supporting role as Becca's mother, Wiest again proves that there are few who can equal her range and subtlety. The movie occasionally shows signs of its genesis as a stage play in its heavy dependence on one-to-one colloquies, but the artistry of these scenes' delivery makes any hesitation disappear. More strained, however, are the scenes that occur between Becca and the teenager (Teller) who drove the vehicle that accidentally killed her son. She stalks him at first; later they meet for conversations on a park bench. It strains credulity, although incorporating the teen's lasting guilt is a nice touch in this story that shares the grief but does not wallow in it. *Rabbit Hole* is, ultimately, realistic and compassionate but does not shy away from the dreadful truth that consolation is not always possible. Our grief must find ways to abide amongst the living. — Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Arbor

new reviews

BLUE VALENTINE D: Derek Cianfrance; with Michelle Williams, Ryan Gosling, Faith Wladyska, John Doman. (R, 120 min.)

Remember the San Francisco Steakhouse? For mid-dinner entertainment, they'd put fishnetted entertainers in Gold Rush-era costumery on a tasseled swing and tell the women to kick higher and higher until they toe-picked a cowbell up in the rafters. That's kind of what *Blue Valentine* feels like, with its obsessively mapped arcing and actorly ding-dinging at every emotional beat. There's so much to admire in Derek Cianfrance's marriage-in-crisis mini-ature that it's that much more frustrating when it falls short of its promise. Williams (perfectly pitched) and Gosling (overdoing it) play a pair of lovers whose narrative is bisected into now – as a weary married couple raising a 5-year-old on a tight budget – and then – when they were flush with new love in their early 20s. Gosling's Dean is a character instantly familiar in this town: He's a working-class hipster with mannered hair and a goofy grin. (One critic expressed puzzlement over the character's prowess with a ukulele and the Tin Pan Alley sound, but Dean's from Brooklyn – what more do you need to know?) It's easy to understand why Williams' Cindy – a suburban girl from a volatile home who dreams of becoming a doctor – would fall for the passionate, excitable, and imaginative Dean, and it's just as easy to understand why those same qualities would repel her five years on. There are bracing moments throughout that feel not just knowing but true: Cindy's hard recoils from her husband's touch, Dean's same-wavelength merry-making bond with his daughter (and the foreknowledge that while she will grow out of it, he never will, which is why Mom is at her wit's end). But those moments, as affecting as they are, can't surmount the overworkshopped feel of the whole film. I admit: I couldn't be more the target audience for this film, as an ardent enthusiast of both the actors and this kind of trigger-point, talk-heavy relationship drama. But *Blue Valentine* is so keen on convincing us of its grubby, emotional-guts-playing realism that the effect is quite the opposite: to throw the film's artifice into stark relief.

– Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Ritz, Arbor

COUNTRY STRONG D: Shana Feste; with Gwyneth Paltrow, Tim McGraw, Garrett Hedlund, Leighton Meester. (PG-13, 112 min.)

If much of the hackneyed dialogue here has the ring of lyrics scribbled on a bar napkin to the saddest song ever writ, well, that's sort of the point – and even the pleasure – of *Country Strong*. No country cliché is left unturned in writer/director Shana Feste's four-part-(dis)harmony ditty about a multiplatinum artist battling addiction and three Nashville players snared in her devastating orbit. Paltrow plays chart-topper Kelly Canter, hatched from rehab at the film's beginning for another kind of rehabilitation – this time of her career – after a show in Dallas ended in a boozy fall that miscarried her second-trimester pregnancy. Canter's manager-husband, James (played by real-life country superstar Tim McGraw, who curiously doesn't sing a peep till the closing credits), hurries Kelly back on tour, to the disapproval of an orderly (Hedlund) at Kelly's detox center who also happens to be her fuck buddy and a budding talent himself (with a name like Beau Hutton, how could he not be, on both counts?). Kelly hits the road with both beaus – husband and lover – plus up-and-comer Chiles Stanton (*Gossip Girl*'s Meester) as an opening act and subplot provider for a soupçon of *All About Eve*-like intrigue. (And couldn't you just make a meal out of the chicken-fried character names?) Kelly's a trainwreck – “from the bottle to the bottom,” indeed – and when Paltrow's gumming the floor on another spectacular bender, it's a jolt to the system, like a muscle-memory spasming back to when she knocked the collective socks off in *Hard Eight*. In the concert sequences, when she's meant to cowboy-queen over amphitheatres packed with denim and sweated Stetson hats, Paltrow's too constitutionally patrician to believably pass as a Shania-like personality (although the production team has a winking eye for New Country stage showmanship; see the American flags unfurling like a punch-line and a Jumbotron backdrop of video horses, hooves a-thunderin'). But Paltrow does well in less Biblically scoped scenes; she's got charisma to burn and nicely straddles the faultline between sass and tremolo teariness. And then there's supporting player Hedlund, who's really the gruff and grizzled lead. He may be vastly more famous for his Lycra-wearing, discus-throwing turn in the new *Tron* reboot, but he's dead-sexy here as Beau, the self-righteous singer-

openings & ratings

Blue Valentine (R)

The Dilemma (PG-13)

- ★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
- ★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
- ★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

The Green Hornet (PG-13)

Rabbit Hole (PG-13)

- ★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
- ★ Poor, without any saving graces
- ☹ La bomba

songwriter bucking at the trappings of fame. (The songs are penned by Hayes Carll, among others.) Hedlund's got a hell of a voice, rotgut-ragged, and whether he's crooning or wooing, whatever he's selling, and no matter how cornpone, I'm buying. — *Kimberley Jones*

★★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Gold Class, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

★ **THE DILEMMA** D: Ron Howard; with Vince Vaughn, Kevin James, Jennifer Connelly, Winona Ryder, Channing Tatum, Queen Latifah, Chelcie Ross, Clint Howard. (PG-13, 118 min.)

Being lifelong friends can be difficult. Relationships, especially those that have been committed (as the singles say), are tough, lovely work. Marriages are even more fraught, unequally primed for passion or peril or plain, old, doe-eyed deceit. *The Dilemma* is a facile string of predictable emo on the face of it, but against all odds — including a January opening and a listless ad campaign that practically preordains an unaware audience — Howard surprises with this decidedly honest comedy-melodrama that encapsulates all of the above facets of love and friendship while taking pains to dwell in the real world. I say “surprising” because it's been 10 years since Howard helmed a film with this much heart, at least since 2001's *A Beautiful Mind*. *The Dilemma*, ably scripted by Allan Loeb, is being pitched as a romantic comedy with complications, but it's actually considerably more than what it appears to be. Anyone expecting a free-pass date movie should be prepared to discuss weighty emotional issues, or, at the very least, Vaughn's crumbling career and this film's tentative resurrection thereof, after the credits roll. Vaughn plays Ronny, best friend and confidant to the high-strung Nick (James); together, they design greenish electro-car stuff for Detroit, but their company hasn't yet cracked Chrysler. Nick is happily married to Geneva (Ryder), Ronny's been going out with Beth (Connelly) long enough that his gambling addiction is less an inciting incident than a convenient bit of backstory, and together the two couples live a seemingly charmed life. Until Ronny, on the verge of buying that dastardly ring, spies Geneva with someone other than Nick, hence his dilemma: to tell or not to tell, and all that that implies. The film is front-loaded with four strong actors and a minefield of a narrative laced with all sorts of bitter pills. There's comedy, yes, but only so much. It's a helluva balancing act, but Vaughn nails it, and his nicely nuanced everyguy performance is aided by the always-excellent Connelly and a sterling turn from James. Admittedly, *The Dilemma* at first feels like a lightweight dramedy/romance of no particular heft, but there's an unexpectedly naked honesty surrounding the foursome at its core. This dilemma — and its resolution — feels real and true, even when it's playing things for laughs. — *Marc Savlov*


★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



THE GREEN HORNET D: Michel Gondry; with Seth Rogen, Jay Chou, Cameron Diaz, Tom Wilkinson, Christoph Waltz, David Harbour, Edward James Olmos, Jamie Harris. (PG-13, 108 min.)


Not quite as bland as Van Williams in the 1966 TV series and by no means as instantaneously unforgettable as Williams' *hail-karate-kicking* onscreen partner, Bruce Lee, Gondry's update of vigilante crime fighter The Green Hornet's escapades is above all an exercise in frustration. Calling it Mr. Gondry's film seems hardly fair, though; the script, by Rogen and Evan Goldberg, has the miscalculated bromance vibe of Judd Apatow on an *Iron Man 2* bender. And tonally, this is about as far as one can get from Gondry's usual darkly fanciful milieu (which includes *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and the underrated *The Science of Sleep*). It feels like a job taken on to pay some bills, but anyone involved in the production who's thinking “franchise” should think again. Rogen, slightly miscast (although you can see what they were aiming for), plays Britt Reid, the wealthy, arrogant, spoiled, party-happy scion of a big-city newspaper publisher. As played by Rogen, Britt embodies the worst character defects of Bruce Wayne minus the stoic panache and single-minded drive. He is, in effect, a buffoon, and the script piles on unfunny comedy throughout, even (especially) after Britt's father dies and, seemingly on a whim and with nothing much better to do, Britt lassoes Dad's mechanic and latte-expert Kato (Taiwanese pop star Chou), with the intention of becoming a masked master of menace, seemingly out of sheer boredom. After much Apatow-esque talk of fulfilling destinies — and it all sounds like so much hokey coming from this relentlessly off-putting windbag — Britt and Kato manage to upset the criminal balance of power and attract the attention of Russian crime kingpin Chudnofsky (*Inglourious Basterds*' Waltz, who doesn't even bother to attempt an Eastern European accent, much less a Russian one). Diaz wanders in and out of the story as Britt's comely secretary, but it's just a shadow of her role in *The Mask* and, as written, could have been played by pretty much anyone other than Phyllis Diller. I fear that more mediocre heroics may be headed our way now that Marvel and DC have cornered the Awesome Market, but even so-so *Hornet* forerunners like *The Phantom* (and certainly downright thrilling one-shots like *The Rocketeer*) are more entertaining than this cheesy, borderline-boring cream puff of a vigilante. — *Marc Savlov*

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate




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BETSY SHARKEY, Los Angeles Times

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Austin 800-FANDANGO (684)

showtimes

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.
Action Pack: The Big Lebowski **Quote-Along:** Thu (1/20), 7:00pm
Terror Tuesday: Blood Rage: Tue, 10:30pm
Blue Valentine: Fri, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00; Sat, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sun, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:00, 9:00; Mon-Tue, 1:00, 7:00, 10:00; Wed, 3:30, 7:00, 9:25; Thu (1/20), 4:30, 7:30, 10:25
Weird Wednesday: Fleshpot on 42nd St.: Wed, 12mid
Music Monday: James Brown: Live at the Boston Garden, 1968: Mon, 10:00pm
Mega Python vs. Gatoradi: Sat, 9:15pm
Action Pack: Nineties UltraMix **Along:** Thu (1/20), 10:00pm
Girlie Night: Pretty in Pink: Tue, 7:45pm
Tough Guy Cinema: RoboCop: Wed, 10:00pm
Santa Sangre: Wed, 6:30pm
Cinema Club: Some One Running: Sun, 7:00pm
Summer Wars: Sat, Sun, 12:00pm
Zsang! Thrashin': Sun, 10:45pm
XSXW Presents: The Upsetter: The Life and Times of Lee 'Scratch' Perry: Mon, 7:30pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK
13729 Research, 219-5408.
Action Pack: The Big Lebowski **Quote-Along:** Fri, 10:00pm
Black Swan: Fri, 12:10, 3:10, 7:00, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10, 11:15pm; Mon, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:25, 3:25, 7:00, 10:10:35
***The Dilemma:** Fri, 11:30am, 2:25, 7:25, 9:20pm;
***Black Swan:** Fri, 11:10am, 2:10, 4:05, 7:50, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:45am, 2:40, 7:20, 9:20pm
Evangelion: 1.0: You Are (Not) Alone: Tue, 10:00pm
Evangelion: 2.0: You Can (Not) Advance: Wed-Thu (1/20), 10:00pm
***The Green Hornet (3-D):** Fri, 12:00, 3:05, 7:40, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:55, 8:00, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:10am, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55
Little Fockers: Fri, 11:40am, 2:15, 6:45pm; Sat-Mon, 11:20am, 1:35, 5:30, 7:05pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:55am, 2:30, 6:45pm
***Season of the Witch:** Fri, 12:20, 3:00, 6:55, 10:50; Sat-Mon, 11:05am, 1:40, 5:05, 7:15, 10:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:35, 3:15, 7:30, 10:50
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 12:30, 3:35, 7:50; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:30, 4:10, 8:10am; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:45, 3:50, 7:50, 10:05
True Grit: Fri, 11:50am, 2:35, 7:15, 9:35, 10:40pm; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 9:50, 10:55pm; Mon, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:05, 2:50, 7:10, 10:10

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.
Black Swan: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45pm; Mon, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45; Tue, 11:30am, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45pm; Wed, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45; Thu (1/20), 2:20, 5:10, 7:05, 10:45
The Dilemma: Fri, 11:40am, 1:30, 3:40, 7:20, 10:30pm;
Sat, 11:40am, 1:30, 3:45, 7:20, 10:30pm; Sun, 11:40am, 1:30, 3:50, 7:20, 10:30pm; Mon, 1:30, 3:50, 7:20, 10:30pm; Tue, 1:30, 3:50, 7:20, 10:30pm; Wed, 1:30, 3:40, 7:20, 10:30pm; Thu, 1:30, 4:05, 7:20, 10:30pm; Fri, 1:20, 1:30, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30
AMOA: Food Design: Wed, 7:00pm
Four Lions: Fri-Tue, 8:30pm; Wed, 9:30pm; Thu (1/20), 8:30pm
AFS: Happiness (Le Bonheur): Tue, 7:00pm
The King's Speech: Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon, 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15; Tue, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15pm; Wed-Thu (1/20), 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15
Little Fockers: Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 4:20, 6:00, 9:55pm; Sun, 4:20, 6:00, 9:55; Mon, 4:15, 6:00, 9:55; Tue, 10:55am, 4:20, 6:00, 9:30pm; Wed, 1:35, 4:20, 9:55; Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:20, 6:00, 9:55
Saturday Night Live Sunday Brunch: Sun, 11:00am
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 12:20, 2:50, 6:50, 10:55; Sat, 12:45, 2:50, 6:50, 10:55; Sun, 2:45, 6:50, 10:55; Mon, 1:05, 2:50, 6:40, 10:55; Tue, 12:25, 2:50, 10:55; Wed, 12:45, 3:55, 6:50; Thu (1/20), 2:50, 10:55
True Grit: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 10:00pm; Mon, 1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 10:00; Tue, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 10:00pm; Wed-Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:25, 7:00, 10:00
Zeitgeist Movement: Zeitgeist: Moving Forward: Sun, 11:30am

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE
2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090. Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old.
XSXW Presents: Enter the Void: Mon-Tue, 10:00pm; Wed, 9:55pm; Thu (1/20), 10:05pm
The Fighter: Fri, 11:5am, 2:05, 4:25, 7:20, 10:20pm; Sat, 2:00, 6:00, 9:10; Sun, 12:10, 4:50, 7:50, 10:45; Mon, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25; Tue, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:35, 10:35pm; Wed, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20; Thu (1/20), 4:50, 7:45, 10:35
***The Green Hornet (3-D):** Fri, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00; Sat, 11:10am, 1:00, 4:05, 7:15, 10:20pm; Sun, 12:40, 2:50, 6:00, 9:00; Mon, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55; Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 7:00, 10:10; Wed, 4:15, 7:20, 10:10; Thu (1/20), 4:40, 7:00, 9:55
TV at the Alamo: NBC Thursdays: Thu (1/20), 10:00pm
Texas Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine: 9.000 Needles: Sun, 4:00pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
The Room: Fri, 11:55pm
AFS: Tiny Furniture: Wed, 7:00pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 11:05am, 2:10, 5:15, 8:30pm; Sat, 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 10:50; Sun, 11:40am, 7:05, 10:50pm; Mon, 4:35, 7:50; Tue, 12:35, 3:45, 7:45; Wed, 4:30pm; Thu (1/20), 3:50pm
True Grit: Fri, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:55, 7:55, 10:45pm; Sat, 12:20, 3:10, 4:50, 7:50, 9:45; Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:40pm; Mon, 4:20, 7:10, 10:50; Tue, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:45pm; Wed, 4:40, 7:30, 10:45; Thu (1/20), 3:10, 7:10

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS
9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.
Discounts daily before 6pm.
Black Swan: Fri-Wed, 12:20, 1:00, 3:00, 6:50, 7:40, 9:45; Thu (1/20), 12:20, 1:00, 3:00, 6:50, 9:45
Blue Valentine: 12:30, 3:30, 7:10, 10:00
Casino Jack: 12:50, 4:10, 7:30, 10:05
The Fighter: 12:50, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
NCM Fathom: Gantz: Thu (1/20), 7:00pm
The King's Speech: 12:00, 12:40, 3:10, 3:40, 6:40, 7:20, 9:35, 10:12
127 Hours: Fri-Wed, 3:50, 10:20; Thu (1/20), 3:50pm
Rabbit Hole: 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:15

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE austinchronicle.com/film.

> **An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.**
> **Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.**

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN.
Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays.
Black Swan: Fri-Mon, 9:30am, 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:50am, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45pm
***Blue Valentine:** Fri-Mon, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:30am, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm
***Country Strong:** Fri-Mon, 10:00am, 12:50, 3:40, 6:30, 9:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:50, 3:40, 6:30, 9:20
The Dilemma: Fri-Mon, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15pm
The Fighter: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:35pm; Sun, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:35; Mon, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:35
The Green Hornet (closed captioned and descriptive video): Fri-Mon, 11:30am, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:35am, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50pm
***The Green Hornet (3-D):** Fri-Mon, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
***Gulliver's Travels (3-D):** 12:55, 7:40, 9:55
The King's Speech: Fri-Mon, 10:15am, 1:05, 3:55, 6:45, 9:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:05, 3:55, 6:45, 9:35
Little Fockers: Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 12:40, 3:15, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40pm; Sun, 3:15, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40; Mon, 10:10am, 12:40, 3:15, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:40, 3:15, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40
Season of the Witch: Fri-Sat, 9:50am, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20pm; Sun, 12:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20pm; Tue, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20; Wed-Thu (1/20), 11:45am, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20pm
***Tangled (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 10:50am, 1:30, 3:50, 6:40pm; Sun, 1:30, 3:50, 6:40; Mon, 10:50am, 1:30, 3:50, 6:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:30, 3:50, 6:40
Tron: Legacy: 9:10pm
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri-Mon, 10:25am, 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:25
***True Grit:** Fri-Mon, 9:45am, 12:25, 3:05, 5:45, 8:25, 10:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 11:55am, 3:05, 5:45, 8:25, 10:55pm
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri-Mon, 10:40am, 3:10, 5:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 3:10, 5:25

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.
Black Swan: 12:30, 3:00, 5:40, 8:10, 10:50
***The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (3-D):** 6:50, 9:30
Country Strong: Fri, 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Mon, 10:50am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10
The Dilemma: Fri, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30
The Fighter: 5:20, 8:00, 10:40
The Green Hornet: Fri, 2:30, 5:30, 8:20, 11:00; Sat-Mon, 11:40am, 2:30, 5:30, 8:20, 11:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:30, 5:30, 8:20, 11:00
The Green Hornet (3-D): Fri, 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
***Gulliver's Travels:** Fri, 12:50, 3:10; Sat-Mon, 10:30am, 12:50, 3:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:50, 3:10
Little Fockers: Fri, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50; Sat-Mon, 10:40am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50
***Season of the Witch:** Fri, 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10; Sat-Mon, 11:10am, 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
Tangled: Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** 12:40, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20
True Grit: Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/20), 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri, 1:20, 4:40; Sat-Mon, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:20, 4:40

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14
12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.
Black Swan: Fri-Mon, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader: Fri-Mon, 11:45am, 5:30, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 5:30, 10:15
Country Strong: 1:00, 4:05, 7:00, 10:00
The Dilemma: Fri-Mon, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35
The Fighter: Fri-Mon, 12:15, 3:20, 6:30, 9:30; Tue-Thu (1/20), 3:20, 6:30, 9:30
The Green Hornet: Fri-Mon, 11:40am, 2:55, 6:05, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:55, 6:05, 9:10
***The Green Hornet (3-D):** 1:20, 4:25, 7:35, 10:30
Gulliver's Travels: Fri-Mon, 11:15am, 1:40, 4:20, 6:55, 9:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:20, 6:55, 9:35
The King's Speech: Fri-Mon, 1:05, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
Little Fockers: Fri-Mon, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50
Season of the Witch: Fri-Mon, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55
Tangled: Fri-Mon, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** 1:10, 4:15, 7:25, 10:20
True Grit: Fri-Mon, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30
Yogi Bear: 3:00, 8:10

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK
2120 N. Mays, Round Rock, 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
Burlesque: Fri, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 12:45, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55; Tue-Thu (1/20), 4:15, 7:10, 9:55
Despicable Me: Fri, 2:00, 4:30; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:00, 4:30
Due Date: Fri, 2:15, 4:45, 7:50, 10:10; Sat-Mon, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:50, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:15, 4:45, 7:50, 10:10
For Colored Girls: Fri, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30; Sat-Mon, 12:15, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30; Tue-Thu (1/20), 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
Life as We Know It: 7:20, 10:00
Megamind: Fri, 1:40, 4:00, 7:30; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:00, 7:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:00, 7:30
Morning Glory: Fri, 2:45pm; Sat-Mon, 12:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:45pm
Nowhere Boy: 9:50pm
Secretariat: Fri, 2:30, 5:15; Sat-Mon, 11:15am, 2:30, 5:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:30, 5:15
Skyline: 8:00, 10:15
The Social Network: Fri, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45; Sat-Mon, 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45; Tue-Thu (1/20), 3:45, 7:00, 9:45
The Warrior's Way: Fri, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Sat-Mon, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Tue-Thu (1/20), 5:10, 7:40, 10:05

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Black Swan: Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:40; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:30, 5:10, 8:05, 10:40
Country Strong: Fri, 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 9:35; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 9:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 9:35
The Dilemma: Fri, 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20; Sat-Mon, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
The Fighter: Fri, 1:50, 5:05, 8:00, 10:45; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 1:50, 5:05, 8:00, 10:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:50, 5:05, 8:00, 10:45
The Green Hornet: Fri, 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10; Sat-Mon, 9:50am, 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10

***The Green Hornet (3-D):** Fri, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 11:15am, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30
Gulliver's Travels: Fri, 3:40, 9:30; Sat-Mon, 10:05am, 3:40, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 3:40, 9:30
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1: Fri, 6:10pm; Sat-Mon, 12:15, 6:10; Tue-Thu (1/20), 6:10, 9:10
The King's Speech: Fri, 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 10:30am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
Little Fockers: Fri, 1:20, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00; Sat-Mon, 10:50am, 1:20, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:20, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
Season of the Witch: Fri, 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Mon, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
Tangled: Fri, 2:50, 5:30, 8:20, 10:25; Sat-Mon, 9:45am, 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 12:30, 3:20, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 9:40am, 12:30, 3:20, 7:00, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:30, 3:20, 7:00, 10:00
True Grit: Fri, 1:00, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45; Sat-Mon, 10:10am, 1:00, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:00, 3:50, 7:10, 9:45
***Yogi Bear (3-D):** Fri, 2:20, 4:35, 6:45, 8:50; Sat-Mon, 9:55am, 12:00, 2:20, 4:35, 6:45, 8:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:20, 4:35, 6:45, 8:50

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Country Strong: Fri, 12:55, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25; Sat-Mon, 10:05am, 12:55, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:55, 3:45, 6:40, 9:25
The Dilemma: Fri, 1:30, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30, 6:55, 8:15, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 10:45am, 1:20, 3:00, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30, 6:55, 8:15, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:30, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30, 6:55, 8:15, 9:40
The Fighter: Fri, 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 10:10am, 12:45, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50
The Green Hornet: Fri, 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 10:00am, 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 10:00
***The Green Hornet (3-D):** Fri, 2:20, 5:20, 8:30; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:20, 5:20, 8:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 2:20, 5:20, 8:30
Gulliver's Travels: Fri, 3:35, 8:00; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 3:35, 8:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 3:35, 8:00
The King's Speech: Fri, 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/20), 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30
Little Fockers: Fri, 1:05, 3:55, 6:25, 8:55; Sat-Sun, 10:25am, 1:05, 3:55, 6:25, 8:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/20), 1:05, 3:55, 6:25, 8:55
Season of the Witch: Fri, 1:40, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 10:55am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:40, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55
Tangled: Fri, 12:45, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10; Sat-Mon, 10:10am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 12:45, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10
***Tron: Legacy (3-D):** Fri, 2:15, 5:25, 8:20; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:15, 5:25, 8:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/20), 2:15, 5:25, 8:20
True Grit: Fri, 1:00, 3:40, 6:15, 9:15; Sat-Mon, 10:15am, 1:00, 3:40, 6:15, 9:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/20), 1:00, 3:40, 6:15, 9:15
Yogi Bear: 1:25, 5:55

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*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

★ **BLACK SWAN** D: Darren Aronofsky; with Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis, Vincent Cassel, Barbara Hershey, Winona Ryder, Benjamin Millepied. (R, 108 min.)

Set within a New York ballet company, this drama-horror hybrid is potent stuff. In an opening dream sequence, an overlooked ballerina named Nina Sayers (Portman) imagines herself dancing the lead in *Swan Lake*. The dream, it turns out, is prophetic: Nina is tapped by the troupe's manipulative director (Cassel) to play the Swan Queen – both the sweet, virginal White Swan and her evil twin, the provocative Black Swan. Nina is a tentative young woman who still lives with her overbearing mother (Hershey). Already crumbling under the stresses of training and a twisted home life, soon enough she's having scary visions of her body's metamorphosis into a swan. This is about flight from self. That simple fact is obscured by Aronofsky's expert use of horror-film technique, wherein even the squish of a cut grapefruit is amplified to queasy, supremely uneasy effect. But what startles most is how exquisitely controlled his command of so much madness truly is. (12/10/2010)

– Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gold Class, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

BURLESQUE D: Steve Antin; with Cher, Christina Aguilera, Stanley Tucci, Cam Gigandet, Eric Dane, Julianne Hough, Kristen Bell, Peter Gallagher, Alan Cumming. (PG-13, 116 min.)

Burlesque bumps and grinds. And then it continues to grind and grind and grind. This new musical leaves no cliché unturned as it struggles to find the heart of cabaret. The girls at the Burlesque Lounge on the Sunset Strip dance onstage in exotic underwear while lip-synching risqué numbers, but no clothing is removed. Aguilera stars as Ali, the orphaned Iowa waitress who ditches her job, straps on her platform pumps, and heads for the glittering lights of Hollywood. The dialogue plods along predictably, and the performance numbers are edited like a cut-and-paste mosaic. Cher was a shrewd casting choice in terms of upping the film's camp cred, but the diva plays it straight as the club's proprietor and den mother, Tess. As *Burlesque* ground along its obvious and well-worn path, my inner voice indeed shouted, "Take it off," though my request was directed toward the projection booth rather than the dancers onstage. (12/03/2010)

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★ Movies 8

CASINO JACK D: George Hickenlooper; with Kevin Spacey, Barry Pepper, Kelly Preston, Jon Lovitz, Rachelle Lefevre, Spencer Garrett, Maury Chaykin. (R, 108 min.)

Casino Jack moves with such manic determination it all but reaches out from the screen and shakes you by the collar: "See, movies about lobbyists can be *fun*!" It's all so I'm Dancing as Fast as I Can that eventually I just gave in and mostly enjoyed the late George Hickenlooper's dramatization of the sensational rise and then super-splat of K-Street con man Jack Abramoff. While the film doesn't absolve the disgraced (then incarcerated) lobbyist, it does go to great pains to paint him as a family man and man of faith, despite the rather sordid company he keeps. Spacey, as Abramoff, has some springy moments as a goof quoting movies at inopportune times and as a shark prowling the waters for his next money-making venture. Despite his character's fondness for mugging and mouthing like Michael Corleone, Spacey can't quite catch the operatic wallop of Corleone's arc, possibly because the film is played top-to-bottom like a caprice. (01/07/2011)

– Kimberley Jones

★★ Arbor

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THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA:
THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN
TREADER

D: Michael Apted; with Ben Barnes, Skandar Keynes, Georgie Henley, Will Poulter, Tilda Swinton; with the voices of Liam Neeson, Simon Pegg. (PG, 112 min.)

This third film entry in the ongoing adaptation of C.S. Lewis' series of splendidly imagined children's books has all the elements of a rip-roaring Saturday-afternoon matinee (including 3-D) *and* the intended Christian allegory, yet a more appropriate rechristening would be *The Voyage of the Yawn Treader*. In a fantastical universe populated by a leonine Christ figure (Aslan, voiced by Neeson), a chatty seagoing mouse (Reepicheep, voiced by Pegg), and a vessel that appears to have been ripped straight from one of Ray Harryhausen's *Sinbad* epics, you'd expect some sort of gravitas. Lucy (Henley) and Edmund Pevensie (Keynes), accompanied by their cousin Eustace Scrubb (Poulter), are drawn into a magical painting, reuniting them with Barnes' Caspian, Aslan, and, eventually, Swinton's still-awe-inspiring White Witch. *Dawn Treader* is bereft of the narrative complexity evidenced in the preceding films; it feels as if this franchise has run aground and is sinking under the weight of its own ambitions. (12/17/2010) – Marc Savlov
★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

DESPICABLE ME **D:** Chris Renaud, Pierre Coffin; with the voices of Steve Carell, Jason Segel, Russell Brand, Julie Andrews, Miranda Cosgrove, Dana Gaier, Elsie Fisher, Will Arnett, Kristen Wiig. (PG, 95 min.)

Everyone knows that the villains are usually the most interesting characters. So the filmmakers were wise to give the megalomaniacal Gru (voiced amusingly by Carell) his own animated movie. The world of *Despicable Me* is reminiscent of *The Incredibles*, in which superheroes and supervillains fully participate in suburban life, blending in unnoticed by ordinary folk. Then, snotty new-villain-on-the-block Vector (Segel) pulls a stunt that bumps Gru from his No. 1 supervillain ranking. Gru retaliates by plotting to steal the moon. Part of his plan involves the adoption of three orphaned sisters (Cosgrove, Gaier, and Fisher), through whose demands for him to accompany them to ballet class and read bedtime stories – as well as some flashbacks that reveal him to be a villain with justifiable mommy issues – Gru discovers his sensitive side. Gru's Minions – yellow, pill-shaped, bespectacled beings that gurgle in some sort of fractionally understandable language – are the movie's ultimate scene-stealers. (07/09/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Movies 8



Tiny Furniture

Tiny Furniture (2010) **D:** Lena Dunham; with Dunham, Laurie Simmons, Grace Dunham, Jemima Kirke, Alex Karpovsky. (NR, 98 min.) **Austin Film Society: Best of the Fests.** After college, a woman returns home to her mother's house while she tries to figure out what to do with her life. Each feature in this series is paired with a short film made by an AFS member. See "Size Matters," p.37, for more on the film. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, Wednesday, 7pm.

DUE DATE **D:** Todd Phillips; with Robert Downey Jr., Zach Galifianakis, Michelle Monaghan, Jamie Foxx, Juliette Lewis, Danny McBride, RZA, Matt Walsh. (R, 95 min.)

Due Date is the comedy delivered by director Phillips in between his breakout success, last year's *The Hangover*, and its coming-soon-to-a-theatre-near-you sequel, which is already in production. Galifianakis, whose comic man-child schtick gets a full workout, plays Ethan Tremblay, gauche and rotund, against Downey Jr.'s Peter Highman, who is just trying to make it home to Los Angeles in time for the birth of his first child. Phillips steers this road-trip movie through a wicked variety of set-pieces and celebrity guest cameos. The problem with *Due Date* is that it is less funny at 95 minutes than it is in its succinct trailers. In between the jokes, the darker moments of *Due Date* emerge and deflate some of the froth. Nevertheless, in its best moments, the film's duo of Galifianakis and Downey Jr. remind us of a bickering Laurel & Hardy digging themselves out of another fine mess. And we're happy to be along for the ride. (11/05/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Movies 8, Metropolitan

THE FIGHTER **D:** David O. Russell; with Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale, Melissa Leo, Amy Adams, Jack McGee, Mickey O'Keefe. (R, 115 min.)

Virtually flawless performances and directorial execution render *The Fighter* one of the most thrilling movies of 2010. Yes, *The Fighter* offers a new riff on the boxing film, but it's also a drama about self-delusions, inner strength, and family as a source of conflict and sustenance. Boxer Dicky Eklund (Bale) was once known as the "Pride of Lowell, Mass." Now he's struggling with addiction and training his younger half brother Micky Ward (Wahlberg) to be a champion. The movie is based on incidents from the true-life story of Ward, who went on to have a storied career. However, *The Fighter* examines Ward's early years, when he lost several fights, retired for the first time, romanced Charlene Fleming (Adams), and began his comeback. Russell's characters are neither good nor bad, they are simply human beings imbued with virtues and faults. It is this intelligence that makes *The Fighter* a great and enduring human drama. (12/17/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gold Class, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

FOR COLORED GIRLS **D:** Tyler Perry; with Kimberly Elise, Janet Jackson, Loretta Devine, Thandie Newton, Anika Noni Rose, Kerry Washington, Tessa Thompson, Phylicia Rashad, Whoopi Goldberg, Macy Gray, Michael Ealy, Hill Harper, Omari Hardwick. (R, 134 min.)

What at first sounds like an awkward fit – artistically ham-handed filmmaker Tyler Perry adapting Ntozake Shange's "choreopoem" about black women's identity – becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. *For Colored Girls*, Perry's first film that doesn't sport his name in front of the title, signals his ambition to expand his creative palette. Perry has brushed up his directing skills, though his plainspoken, unsubtle aesthetic is an uncomfortable match for the fragility of Shange's poetic monologues. Still, Elise, Newton, Devine, Rose, Washington, and Rashad find the pulse of their characters and are able to convey something of their emotions, even when they lack clarity and backstory. There is a lot of turmoil captured in these vignettes: date rape, infanticide, promiscuity, back-alley abortion, pathological religiosity, and AIDS, to name but a few. Even though *For Colored Girls* had the second weakest opening weekend for any Perry release, his choice to revive and recalibrate Shange's classic work is a good thing overall. (11/12/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Movies 8

FOUR LIONS **D:** Chris Morris; with Riz Ahmed, Arsher Ali, Nigel Lindsay, Kayvan Novak, Adeel Akhtar. (R, 102 min.)

Quite probably the world's first Islamic terrorist comedy, *Four Lions* is set in Sheffield, 150 miles north of London, and details the bumbling efforts



of a group of radicalized Muslims who dream of becoming suicide bombers. Faisal (Akhtar) is soft-spoken and maybe soft in the head; Waj (Novak) is dim but eager to please; Barry (Lindsay), a white convert, is a bilious fanatic; and Hassan (Ali) is a wannabe rapper just looking for a community. But leader Omar (Ahmed) is a genuinely politicized and embittered young man with a wife and son. *Four Lions* is a riot of physical comedy, and much of the dialogue is sneakily hilarious in its sheer banality. Director Morris, in his first feature film, imperceptibly shifts from pure satire to accommodate a more complete and, yes, humanizing portrait of the conflicted jihadist. This is provocative stuff, to be sure. A comedy of errors and terrors? Who woulda thunk it? (11/05/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS **D:** Rob Letterman; with Jack Black, Jason Segel, Emily Blunt, Amanda Peet, Billy Connolly, Chris O'Dowd. (PG, 93 min.)

As disinterested in itself as *Gulliver's Travels* seems to be, it's a wonder it ever came into existence at all. The film reveals little exertion made on behalf of the narrative, lackadaisical attention paid to the possibilities of 3-D and other state-of-the-art special effects, and careless direction of the actors, who often sound as though they're talking (albeit in clashing Lilliputian accents) to nothing more than a green screen. *Gulliver's Travels* is a story that screams out for superior visual effects but the images achieved here are hardly more effective (or three-dimensional) than the panels in a *Classics Illustrated* comic book. It seems the only forethought given to this remake was to cast Jack Black as Gulliver since he's the closest thing we have to a living cartoon and, hell, he was one fine panda. This *Gulliver's Travels* is listless, dull, and totally lacking in spectacle: marooned with no way home, just like its title character. (12/31/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
BOMB CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1

D: David Yates; with Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Ralph Fiennes, Alan Rickman, Helena Bonham Carter, Julie Walters, Bill Nighy, Imelda Staunton, Tom Felton, Rhys Ifans, Jason Isaacs, Helen McCrory, Peter Mullan. (PG-13, 146 min.)

The first half of a two-film adaptation of J.K. Rowling's final book about the battle between the damaged boy-wizard Harry (Radcliffe) and the dark Lord Voldemort (Fiennes), *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1* is, as a whole, the finest Potter film yet. From the superlative digital effects and original score to the saga-scoped camerawork, *Deathly Hallows* is all business – taut, fraught, and fearsome. When Voldemort's minions, the Death Eaters, storm the Ministry, Harry and best friends Hermione (Watson) and Ron (Grint) go underground to find and destroy the remaining Horcruxes, talismans in which Voldemort safeguarded splinters of his soul. *Deathly Hallows* is still truthful to the spirit of these decent, sometimes goofy kid-characters, whom we've watched grow up in the course of 10 years. They remain fundamentally the same, only now with jaws set hard from troubled times. They've been through something epic, and for the first time, truly, so have we. (11/19/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★★★ CM Round Rock, Gateway, Tinseltown South

Happiness (Le Bonheur)

Happiness (Le Bonheur) (1965) **D:** Agnès Varda. (NR, 79 min.) **Austin Film Society: Agnes on Agnès – Le Cinema de Varda.** *Happiness (Le Bonheur)* is a provocative film that leaves it to viewers to define the meaning of the term while Varda's beliefs, atypically, remain out of view. A happily married family man wonders why his addition of a lover won't bring even more happiness into his life. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7pm; \$8, AFS members free.

HOW DO YOU KNOW **D:** James L. Brooks; with Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd, Owen Wilson, Jack Nicholson, Kathryn Hahn, Mark Linn-Baker, Lenny Venito. (PG-13, 120 min.)

How do you know when you're in love? It's been a while for me, but I remember a powerful urge to upchuck. In the same vein, professional softball player Lisa (Witherspoon) wears a pinched, pained expression whenever she contemplates the idea of loving George (Rudd), an unfailingly decent businessman who is currently under federal investigation. But wait! There's another bachelor behind Door No. 2: Matty (Wilson), a Nationals ballplayer whose negotiations with monogamy mark some of the funnier moments in this disappointingly slack comedy from writer/director Brooks. *How Do You Know* isn't a bomb, but it is bewildering how something so limp could come from a sharpshooter like Brooks, who never supplies a definitive answer to the open-ended title – there are pretty speeches, sure – but I think most everybody would agree you just know when it's right. And in the case of *How Do You Know*, it's not. (12/17/2010) – Kimberley Jones
★★ Gateway, Tinseltown South



Some Came Running

Some Came Running (1958) **D:** Vincente Minnelli; with Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Shirley MacLaine. (NR, 137 min.) **Cinema Club.** In Minnelli's film adaptation of James Jones' novel, Sinatra stars as a prodigal son who returns to his provincial Indiana home town. The hypocrisy, sexual repression, and backwater snobbery here is enough to make Peyton Place look like Vatican City. Tagging after Sinatra's unwelcome hero is the waiflike tramp played by MacLaine, a dumb, blowzy child-woman whose heart is bigger (and more fragile) than that of the whole town combined. And Martin, as the card-sharp best friend, has rarely appeared as seamlessly smooth as he does in this film. The sexual repression subplot in this 1940s-set film seems rather dated today, but Minnelli's recurrent theme of the artist divided against himself is given full expression. Most glorious, however, is Minnelli's use of CinemaScope. Richard Linklater is the guest presenter. (*) @Alamo Ritz, Sunday, 7pm.

★ **THE KING'S SPEECH** D: Tom Hooper; with Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush, Helena Bonham Carter, Derek Jacobi, Jennifer Ehle, Guy Pearce, Michael Gambon, Eve Best, Timothy Spall. (R, 118 min.)

Speech, whether in the form of eloquent diplomacy, familial comfort, or prewar leadership, is ostensibly the stiff upper lip of *The King's Speech*. In 1936, Prince Albert (Firth) was forced to become King George VI when his brother, King Edward VIII (Pearce), scandalously abdicated the throne for the love of an American divorcée. Bad enough, yes, but this royal disaster was followed by the first gambits in "Mr. Hitler's" war. Worse still, the new king is a stutterer. His savior arrives in the form of Rush's genius speech therapist, Lionel Logue, whose methods counter the king's self-doubt in ways that take on new weight as war looms. This is a knowing, sincere, and beautifully shot film that takes on the meatiest slabs of history and renders these Balmoralians as something other than mere figureheads. *The King's Speech* brings a country's fear of war and a sudden king's dread of supremacy into perfect, uncommon focus. (12/24/2010) — Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gold Class, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

LIFE AS WE KNOW IT D: Greg Berlanti; with Katherine Heigl, Josh Duhamel, Josh Lucas, Christina Hendricks, Hayes MacArthur, Sarah Burns, Alexis Clagett. (PG-13, 113 min.)

With its sitcom-ready premise and its engaging and attractive leads, *Life as We Know It* lives up to its title: This romantic comedy is more of the same. In this improbable story, Holly Berenson (Heigl) and Eric Messer (Duhamel), who goes by his last name, become instant parents when their best friends (MacArthur and Hendricks of *Mad Men* fame) die in a car accident and leave a will that designates Holly and Messer as the child's guardians. Each is a friend of only one of the spouses, and their antipathy for each other is delineated in a blind date shown in the movie's preamble. Nevertheless, they move into their friends' house to raise adorable Sophie (the Clagett triplets). Eventually, they discover what we knew all along: These two belong together. Director Berlanti pads the film with numerous clichéd montages set to popular music, and the script brings little that's new to this baby shower. (10/08/2010) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ Movies 8

LITTLE FOCKERS D: Paul Weitz; with Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson, Blythe Danner. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Following *Meet the Parents* and *Meet the Fockers* — the films that traced the courtship and marriage of Greg (Stiller) and Pam (Polo) Focker as they learned to integrate all four off-kilter in-laws into their lives — the couple is now residing in Chicago and planning for their twins' 5th birthday party. Apart from the smutty giggles that derive from the mere mention of the Focker family surname, this third entry in the now 10-year-old comedy franchise falls flat. The twins' birthday party provides the film's extended climax, but its lackluster highlights include grown men fighting in bouncy castles and an impromptu kiss between Pam's ex-boyfriend Kevin (Wilson) and her mother-in-law (Streisand). The concluding sequence of the movie unites both families during the holiday season, a choice that seems to promise more *Focker* films to come, offering ecumenical possibilities of Jewish and Christian amity for the busy holiday movie-going week. (12/24/2010) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

MEGAMIND D: Tom McGrath; with the voices of Will Ferrell, Tina Fey, Jonah Hill, Brad Pitt, David Cross. (PG, 95 min.)

The DreamWorks Animation team devotes its extraordinary attention to 3-D visual detail in *Megamind* — most commonly to the illustration of such mayhem as death rays vaporizing steel and whole buildings turning to rubble. It's a lot of Sturm und Drang that quickly grows repetitive; I'd trade 90% of the action for a few more of those tight close-ups of blue-hued Megamind (voiced by Ferrell). Megamind is a self-professed supervillain, an alien who was orphaned young and crafted an identity in counterpoint to another founding who fell to Metro City, USA, on the same day — the buff, boffo Metro Man (voiced by Pitt). But what's a big baddie to do when his nemesis and prime motivator takes an extended vacation? *Megamind* gets existential, but only in blips, and while it is never anything less than vibrant and exceedingly clever, it is also a rather slight thing for such megasized proportions. (11/05/2010) — Kimberley Jones

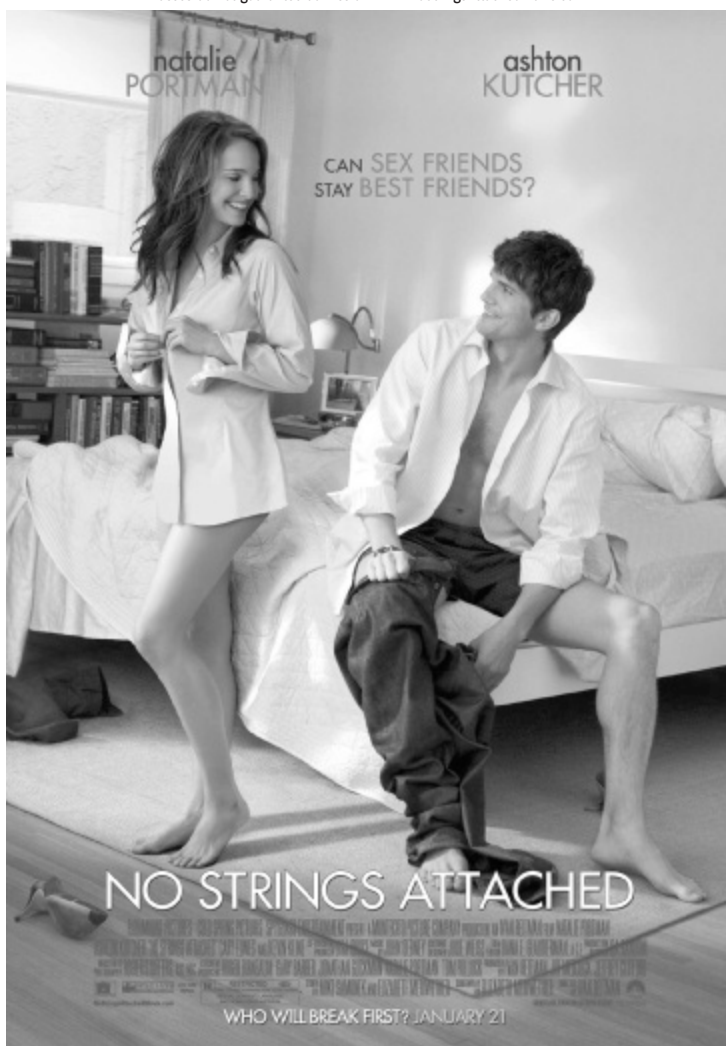
★★★ Movies 8

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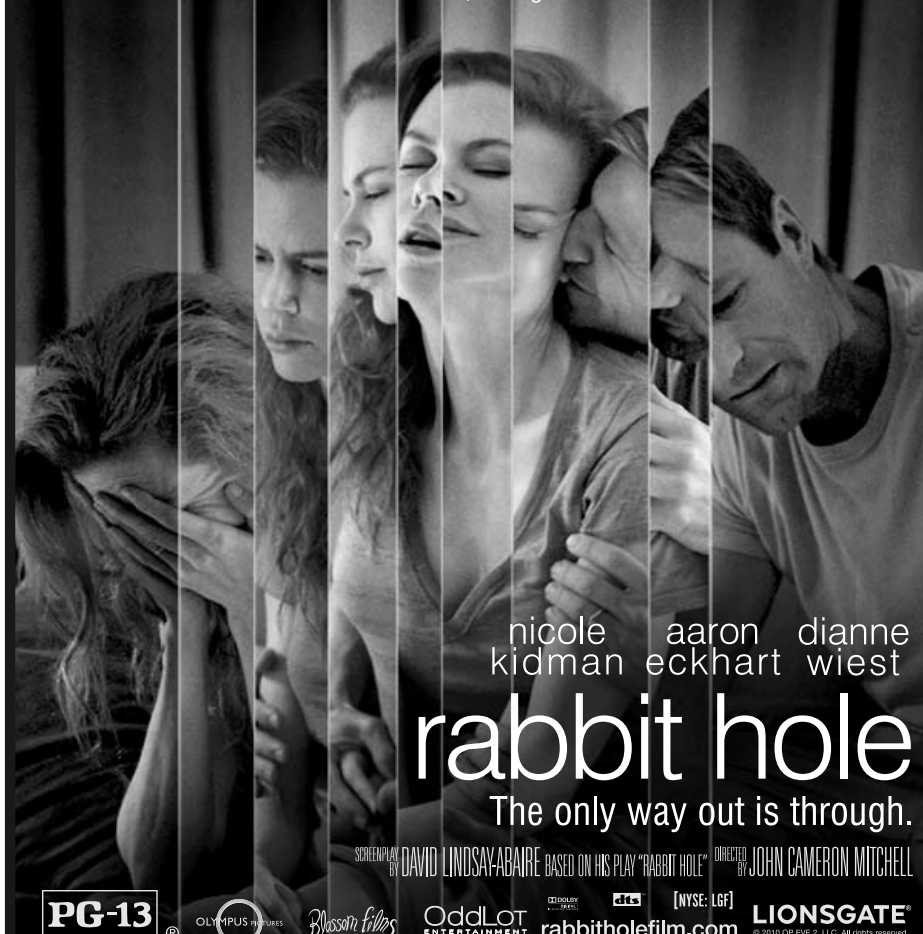
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Gantz

Gantz (2011) D: Shinsuke Sato; with Kazunari Ninomiya, Kenichi Matsuyama. (NR, 150 min.) **NCM Fathom.** This live-action feature is based on the popular Japanese manga and anime series and declares itself to be the “ultimate survival game.” It will be dubbed in English, and, following the screening, the two stars will participate in an exclusive live interview. @Arbor, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Thursday (1/20), 7pm.

MORNING GLORY D: Roger Michell; with Rachel McAdams, Harrison Ford, Diane Keaton, Patrick Wilson, Jeff Goldblum, John Pankow. (PG-13, 102 min.)

Morning Glory aims for a mix of comedy, romance, and working-woman woes. Morning-show producer Becky (McAdams) is a little bit hunchy and bedraggled, but adorably so. Hired to turn around the disastrous ratings of a national morning show, Becky in turn hires a seasoned newsman, Mike Pomeroy (Ford), to co-anchor the program with sugar (on-camera) and spice (off-) Colleen Peck (Keaton). Mike is hell-bent on sabotaging what he rightfully considers to be a gig way, way beneath him, and the bulk of *Morning Glory* is spent tracking Becky’s uphill battle to convince Mike to play nice for the camera. “Play nice” may very well be the mantra of Michell (*Notting Hill*), a director of excessive sentimentality and empty stylishness. Well-acted and ingratiating, with at least one howlingly funny sequence, *Morning Glory* had the capacity to be a smarter, tarter picture, though it’s not bad as is. (11/12/2010) – Kimberley Jones ★★ Movies 8

NO ONE KILLED JESSICA D: Raj Kumar Gupta; with Vidya Balan, Rani Mukherjee, Rajesh Sharma. (NR, 130 min., subtitled)

After a model is murdered in this Bollywood film, her sister and a reporter try to uncover the truth of what happened. The film was not screened for press. (01/07/2011) – Marjorie Baumgarten Tinseltown South

NOWHERE BOY D: Sam Taylor-Wood; with Aaron Johnson, Anne-Marie Duff, Kristin Scott Thomas, David Threlfall, Josh Bolt, James Johnson, Thomas Sangster. (R, 99 min.)

This movie about John Lennon’s young-adult years prior to the success of the Beatles uncovers no new dimensions regarding the musician’s parental issues (he was raised by an aunt and uncle when his biological parents proved unable – long story there). Still, artist-turned-filmmaker Taylor-Wood gives us an evocative telling of Lennon’s early years, a depiction all the more remarkable for Johnson’s lack of resemblance to the film’s subject. The film is loosely based on a memoir written by Lennon’s half-sister Julia Baird, yet anyone who has listened to Lennon’s intensely autobiographical songwriting, especially from his post-Beatles years, may find *Nowhere Boy* more redundant than revelatory. The performances are what really put this biopic over the top and clarify the importance of the strong women in Lennon’s early life, perhaps laying the groundwork for his later gravitation toward feminist ideals. *Nowhere Boy* reveals the magnitude of the good women behind the grand icon. (10/15/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★ Movies 8

127 HOURS D: Danny Boyle; with James Franco, Kate Mara, Amber Tamblyn, Treat Williams, Kate Burton, John Lawrence. (R, 94 min.)

Calm, cool, and tear-your-hair-out exciting, *127 Hours* is an archetypal tale of man vs. nature vs. himself. Danny Boyle adapts Aron Ralston’s “trapped in the wilderness” memoir with gripping aplomb. Ralston, after a morning of mountain-biking and cavorting in underground swimming holes with a pair of newbie female hikers (Tamblyn and Mara), falls from nature’s grace and lands in a horrific situation: His arm is crushed and unable to be freed, he’s low on water, and absolutely no one is aware of his plight. It’s a bad trip in every sense of the phrase. *127 Hours* is an unrelenting tour de force but it’s also an unforgettable examination of the human spirit under extreme duress. The fact that Franco gives the performance of his career is the icing on the cake. Fair warning, oh squeamish ones: *127 Hours* does not shy away from Ralston’s ultimate method of obtaining egress from his predicament. Which is exactly as it should be. (11/19/2010) – Marc Savlov ★★★★★ Arbor, Metropolitan

SECRETARIAT D: Randall Wallace; with Diane Lane, John Malkovich, Dylan Walsh, Dylan Baker, Margo Martindale, Nelsan Ellis, Otto Thorwarth, Fred Dalton Thompson, James Cromwell. (PG, 122 min.)

Saddle up for some old-fashioned inspirational movie entertainment as Disney mounts the story of horse-racing’s 1973 Triple Crown winner. Actually, the focus of the movie is not really the horse but the people who owned and trained him and shared with him the will to succeed. How do we know the animal had a will to succeed? Because owner Penny Chenery Tweedy (Lane) stares into his eyes and channels his desires. The outcome of Secretariat’s story is already part of our popular knowledge prior to any film treatment of the events, thus allowing the movie to focus on the characters’ journeys rather than their finish lines. Thus, *Secretariat* is more a story of Mrs. Tweedy. Drafted to her side are the eccentric trainer Lucien Lauren (a restrained Malkovich), groom Eddie Sweat (Ellis), and jockey Ron Turcotte (real-life jockey Thorwarth). Some audiences will cheer as if they were at the track, but *Secretariat* is ultimately a conventional story, conventionally told. (10/08/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★ Movies 8

SKYLINE D: Colin Strause, Greg Strause; with Eric Balfour, Scottie Thompson, Brittany Daniel, Donald Faison, David Zayas, Crystal Reed, Neil Hopkins. (PG-13, 94 min.)

“Don’t go toward the light” is the advice given to patients trying to resist death’s embrace. The advice might also prove wise for the characters in *Skyline*, an effects-heavy thriller about an alien invasion of Los Angeles. I’d use the term “science fiction” to describe *Skyline*, but the movie decidedly lacks both science and fiction. The effects in this new movie are, indeed, quite stunning. However, *Skyline*, directed by the Brothers Strause, is the kind of movie in which the characters make so many dumb moves and repeat the same trite exclamations that audiences love to watch them in order to yell mocking comments back at the screen. Logical questions arrive with almost every new sequence. Most curious of all, however, is how the filmmakers could pass up the obvious joke opportunities about Angelenos being done in by their “brainless” inability to resist bright, shiny objects. Don’t make the same mistake: Don’t go toward the light. (11/19/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★ Movies 8

THE SOCIAL NETWORK D: David Fincher; with Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield, Justin Timberlake, Armie Hammer, Rooney Mara, Max Minghella, Joseph Mazzello, Rashida Jones. (PG-13, 121 min.)

Fincher’s blisteringly entertaining *The Social Network* touches down in the calm before the storm, before social media rewrote the rules on how information moves. We first meet the eventual founder of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg (Eisenberg), in a bar, having drinks with his girlfriend (Mara). He is callous, socially inept, and ravenously ambitious – the boy who would be king, not yet fixed on what the kingdom will look like. *The Social Network* cuts with ease from flashbacks of Zuckerberg’s

undergraduate days to depositions related to two concurrent lawsuits brought against him. Although the legal proceedings provide a handy framework for the film, who did what to whom, when, and with how much premeditated bloodlust is of ancillary concern to the film’s layered examination of an asshole. (That’s the filmmakers’ word, not mine.) History as we know it is still unfurling, and *The Social Network* is that rare film that has something – not yet definitive but certainly provocative – to say about it. (10/01/2010) – Kimberley Jones ★★★★★ Movies 8

SUMMER WARS D: Mamoru Hosoda. (PG, 114 min.)

Arriving in America with international awards and immediate comparisons to the work of Japan’s longtime king of animation, Hayao Miyazaki, *Summer Wars* is every bit as good as anime fans have been hoping it would be. Family loyalty, friendship, self-sacrifice, and puppy love are all at the heart of Hosoda’s sprawlily humanistic film. Kenji is a mathematics whiz and a moderator in the virtual world of OZ. Shy, lanky, and virginal, Kenji lucks out when comely co-worker Natsuki invites him to her family’s country home. Unfortunately, Kenji cracks a code sent to his cell phone by forces unknown and thereby unleashes an artificial intelligence into OZ, which then causes chaos to spill out into the “real” world. I know, it sounds vaguely like every other anime, but trust me, *Summer Wars* is a magnificent film that manages to comment on everything from Facebook to virtual terrorism without ever seeming heavy-handed or strident. (01/07/2011) – Marc Savlov ★★★★★ Alamo Ritz

TANGLED D: Nathan Greno, Byron Howard; with the voices of Mandy Moore, Zachary Levi, Donna Murphy, Ron Perlman, M.C. Gainey, Jeffrey Tambor, Brad Garrett. (PG, 92 min.)

The venerable Disney animators have climbed aboard both the CGI and 3-D bandwagons for their latest holiday release, which reworks the Brothers Grimm fairy tale *Rapunzel*. The classic hallmarks



Laura

Laura (1944) D: Otto Preminger; with Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews, Clifton Webb, Vincent Price, Judith Anderson. (NR, 88 min.) **Film Noir Double Feature.** One of the all-time murder-mystery movie classics, *Laura* stars beguiling Tierney in the title role. Also of note are the delightful performances of Webb as a jaundiced reporter and Price in his best nonhorror role. (Double bill: *Out of the Past*.) (*) @ Paramount, Thursday (1/13)-Friday, 9pm.

of Disney animation are all here: stunning attention to the details of nature and the inclusion of an evil mother figure as a trigger for the storyline. Rapunzel’s hair should be listed as one of the story’s main characters, so intrinsic is it to the film’s appeal. As voiced by Moore, Rapunzel is a spunky gal, capable of defending herself and singing sturdily. Tony Award-winner Murphy brings stage showmanship to her musical interludes as Mother Gothel, which drip with sarcasm and biting wit. The songs by Alan Menken and Glenn Slater are fun but unmemorable, however. Even though the sight of Rapunzel’s shimmering hair and scenes of flickering lanterns across the skyline are visual wonders, the biggest reactions to the animation seemed to come from scenes of classic physical comedy. (11/26/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Millennium, Tinseltown North

THE TOURIST D: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck; with Johnny Depp, Angelina Jolie, Paul Bettany, Timothy Dalton, Steven Berkoff, Rufus Sewell. (PG-13, 103 min.)

Interpol wants to catch a thief, namely Alexander Pearce, who has stolen more than \$2 billion. For some reason, these top cops have no idea what their suspect looks like, so they spend two years watching his girlfriend, Elise (Jolie). Their efforts pay off once she receives a note delivered by courier instructing her to catch the next train to Venice and pick a man of Alexander’s general height and build to serve as an unwitting decoy. And that stranger on a train? He turns out to be none other than Johnny Depp, in the role of Frank Tupelo, a widowed math teacher from Wisconsin. This film obviously strives for a Hitchcockian vibe of romance and suspense. True, many twists and turns occur. Nevertheless, *The Tourist* doesn’t generate much suspense or intrigue. Von Donnersmarck’s direction is dull and flat. Without sizzle or thrills, *The Tourist* becomes as sluggish and rank as the Venice waterways. (12/17/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Gateway, Metropolitan

TRON: LEGACY D: Joseph Kosinski; with Jeff Bridges, Garrett Hedlund, Olivia Wilde, Bruce Boxleitner, Michael Sheen, James Frain, Anis Cheurfa. (PG, 125 min.)

There’s absolutely no shortage of stunning eye candy in this spiffy, sexy, and frequently thrilling sequel to Disney’s 1982 game-changer *Tron*. There is, however, a certain lack of connectivity between the digitally enhanced characters onscreen and the audience. Debuting director Kosinski has created a virtual world that’s seamless and immersive. Here, the grid – that sleek inner world of the game – is all crystalline club life and roaring, tempestuous crowds craving gladiatorial blood(less)sport. *Legacy* finds Flynn’s Ducati-riding offspring, Sam (Hedlund), sucked into the game this time around. The grid is no longer the utopian ideal Flynn (Bridges) imagined it could be. Instead, his digital doppelgänger, Clu (Bridges again), has taken control and is plotting escape into the real world. It’s still a soulless machine for making Disney mountains of cash, of course, but you can feel it striving to be more. Which is, at the end of the game, what singularity is all about. (12/17/2010) – Marc Savlov ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, IMAX Theatre, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

TRUE GRIT D: Joel Coen, Ethan Coen; with Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon, Josh Brolin, Hailee Steinfeld, Barry Pepper, Elizabeth Marvel. (PG-13, 110 min.)

The Coens’ version of *True Grit* remains faithful to Charles Portis’ novel, which was also the source material for the 1969 John Wayne film. Fourteen-year-old Mattie Ross (Steinfeld, a terrific young newcomer) hires Rooster Cogburn (Bridges) to capture the man who killed her father, but much of the story’s humor fails to connect. Only Damon, as Texas Ranger LaBoeuf, captures the boneheadedness of his character’s grandiloquent language and self-importance. Bridges plays it straight, abandoning all

sentimentality and giving the role a lived-in feeling. Yet whatever led the actor to deliver his lines in a mumbling growl is a true mystery. *True Grit* (much of which was filmed here in Austin and in nearby Granger) has some handsome sequences but, overall, lacks these filmmakers' usually precise eye and craftsmanship. All this is not to say that *True Grit* is an awful film; it's just that the Coens have set their own standards for excellence, and this film falls short. (12/24/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Gold Class, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE WARRIOR'S WAY D: Sngmoo Lee; with Jang Dong-gun, Kate Bosworth, Geoffrey Rush, Danny Huston, Tony Cox, Ti Lung, Nic Sampson, Ryan Richards. (R, 100 min.)

Although it's a strange, not-quite-successful but entertaining attempt to merge the tropes of the American Western with those of the sword-wielding chopsocky genre, *The Warrior's Way* is drained of much of its presumed power by a distinct "been there, seen that" vibe. Does the world really need another slo-mo shot of a bullet or blade speeding toward its intended target? Enough already. Yang (Jang) is an assassin on the lam who is forced into exile in the old American West when he refuses to kill his rival clan's only surviving member (a child). There's so much over-the-top acting going on that at times it appears the actors attempted to out-act the digital set-pieces they knew would eventually subsume them. Prescient move on their part, but it doesn't quite work. The CGI wins, the actors lose, and we, the audience, are left wishing Stephen Chow would hurry up and make a sequel to *Kung Fu Hustle*. (12/10/2010) – Marc Savlov

★★ Movies 8

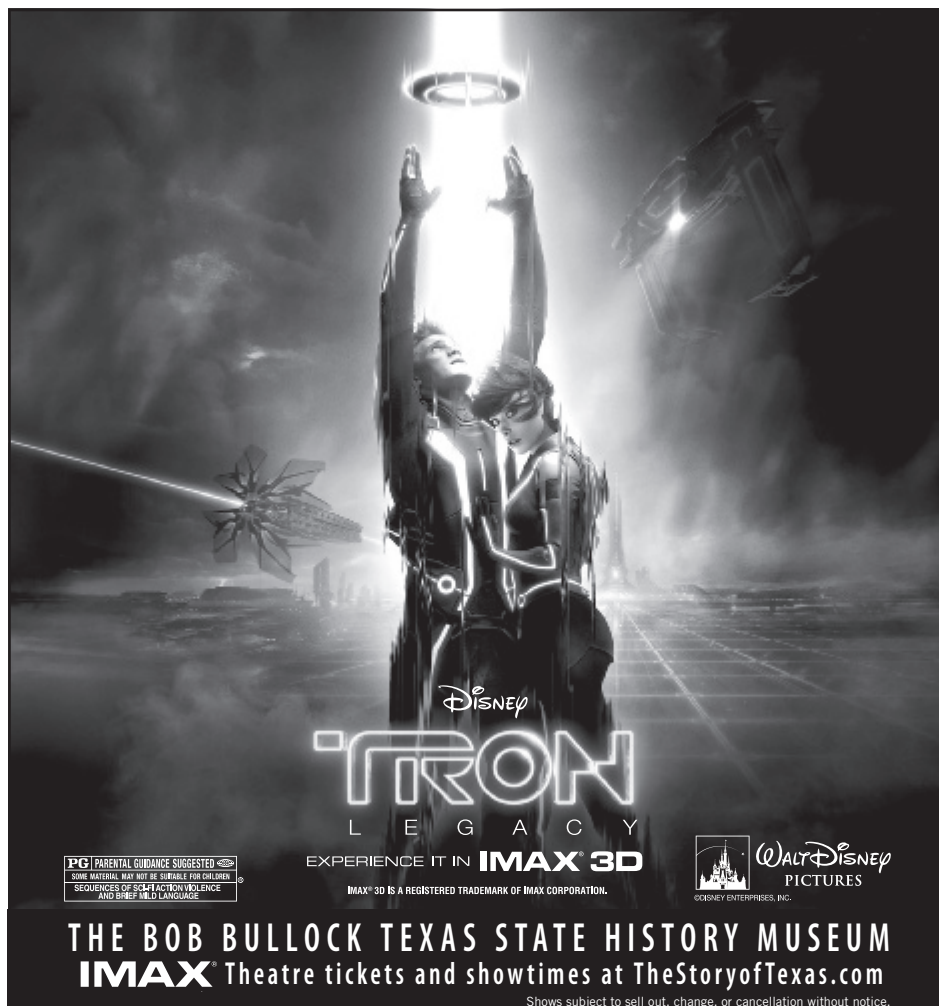
YOGI BEAR D: Eric Brevig; with Anna Faris, Tom Cavanagh, T.J. Miller, Andrew Daly, Nathan Corrdry; with the voices of Dan Aykroyd, Justin Timberlake. (PG, 80 min.)

Yogi Bear is unbearable. Maybe I'm out of touch, but I don't recall hearing a hue and cry for a revival of Hanna-Barbera's ursine star Yogi Bear and his sidekick, Boo Boo. Nevertheless, the stars of *The Yogi Bear Show*, which ran on TV in the early Sixties, have clawed their way onto the silver screen. Yogi (voiced by Aykroyd) still lives in Jellystone Park and still proclaims himself "smarter than the average bear." Aided by Boo Boo (voiced by Timberlake), he devises elaborate plots to separate park visitors from their "pic-nic" baskets. The talking bear makes life difficult for Ranger Smith (Cavanagh) but is one of the lures that brings documentary filmmaker Rachel (Faris) to the park to shoot a film. When the corrupt local mayor (Daly) decides to sell Jellystone's logging rights, the bears and humans join forces to obstruct the sale. Only the youngest, most undiscerning viewers will want to decamp to Jellystone. (12/17/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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TRUE GRIT (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:15 2:35 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 12:15 2:35 4:55 7:20 9:45
LITTLE FOCKERS (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30 11:45
Sun. - Thu. 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30
TRON: LEGACY 3D (PG) Fri. - Thu. 1:30 4:20 7:05 9:50
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THURSDAY 13

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) *D: Joel Coen; with Jeff Bridges.* (R, 117 min.) **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Enter the Void (2010) *D: Gaspar Noé; with Nathaniel Brown, Paz de la Huerta, Cyril Roy.* (NR, 161 min.) **SXSW Presents.** Cinema provocateur Noé turns from the horrific to the psychedelic in this astonishing film that's being shown in its full two-hour-and-40-minute director's cut. It is one of the trippiest and most compelling visual narratives to come along in quite some time. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10:20pm.

Laura (1944) See p.62.

Nineties UltraMix Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10:10pm.

Out of the Past (1947) *D: Jacques Tourneur; with Robert Mitchum, Jane Greer, Kirk Douglas, Rhonda Fleming.* (NR, 97 min.) **Film Noir Double Feature.** An essential of film noir, this Mitchum classic is full of double crosses and femmes who are most certainly fatale. (Double bill: *Laura*.) @Paramount, 7pm.

SPACES

Popeye (1980) *D: Robert Altman; with Robin Williams, Shelley Duvall, Ray Walston, Paul Dooley, Paul L. Smith.* (PG, 114 min.) **Patron Picks.** TV cartoon in addition to movie. (*) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

"Promised Land" (2009) *D: Yoruba Richen.* (NR, 53 min.) Post-apartheid South Africa's effort to bring about racial reconciliation through land redistribution is the subject of this documentary. @MonkeyWrench Books, 6:30pm.

FRIDAY 14

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

Kaavalan (2011) *D: Siddique; with Vijay, Asin Thottumkal.* (NR) A remake of the director's previous Malayalam film, this new Tamil film is a romantic comedy. No subtitles. (*) @Tinseltown South, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45pm.

Laura (1944) @Paramount, 7pm. (See p.62.)

Mirapakai (2010) *D: Harish Shankar; with Ravi Teja, Richa Gangopadhyaya, Deeksha.* (NR, 130 min.) This Telugu-language film, which screens without subtitles, features a score by the prolific Indian composer Thaman S. @Tinseltown South, 3, 6:15, 9:30pm.

Out of the Past (1947) @Paramount, 9pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

The Room (2003) *D: Tommy Wiseau; with Wiseau, Juliette Danielle, Greg Sestero, Philip Haldiman.* (R, 99 min.) This is the movie that's become the latest sensation in the "so bad it's good" school of filmmaking. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 11:55pm.

SPACES

Tron (1982) *D: Stephen Lisberger; with Jeff Bridges, Dan Shor, Barnard Hughes, Cindy Morgan, David Warner, Bruce Boxleitner.* (PG, 96 min.) See website for info and reservations. @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 28 issue is Monday, Jan. 17.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

64 THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE JANUARY 14, 2011 austinchronicle.com

SATURDAY 15

Kaavalan (2011) @Tinseltown South, noon, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45pm. (See Friday.)

Mega Python vs. Gatoroid (2011) *D: Mary Lambert; with Debbie Gibson, Tiffany.* Premiering later this month on the SyFy channel, this TV movie stars Eighties icons Gibson and Tiffany as opposing forces in this story about lethal pythons endangering the alligator populations in the Florida Everglades. The Alamo hosts this theatrical world premiere. @Alamo Ritz, 9:15pm.

Mirapakai (2010) @Tinseltown South, 11:50am, 3, 6:15, 9:30pm. (See Friday.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry.* (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

The Empire Strikes Back (1980) *D: Irvin Kershner; with Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher, Billy Dee Williams.* (PG, 124 min.) **Austin Public Library: Star Wars vs. Star Trek: The Sequels!** *Star Wars* Jeopardy begins at 12:30pm. Light refreshments served. @University Hills Branch Library, 2pm; free.

The Pink Panther (1963) *D: Blake Edwards; with Peter Sellers, David Niven, Robert Wagner, Capucine.* (NR, 113 min.) **Patron Picks.** A match-up of TV cartoons and movie. (*) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

SUNDAY 16

Laura (1944) @Paramount, 4pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

9,000 Needles (2009) *D: Doug Dearth.* (NR, 120 min.) **Texas Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.** Dearth traveled to China to document his brother's search for effective treatment at a stroke rehabilitation center where conventional medical treatment in combined with traditional Chinese methods, including acupuncture. The director will be in attendance for a Q&A. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 4pm.

Out of the Past (1947) @Paramount, 2pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

Saturday Night Live Sunday Brunch Catch up with the night before on the morning after. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11am.

Some Came Running (1958) See p.60.

Thrashin' (1986) *D: David Winters; with Josh Brolin.* (PG-13, 93 min.) **Zzang!** Skateboarding gangs battle for supremacy. @Alamo Ritz, 10:45pm.

Zeitgeist: Moving Forward (2011) *D: Peter Joseph.* **Zeitgeist Movement.** A case is made in this

documentary for a transition out of the current socioeconomic monetary paradigm and into a sustainable "resource-based economy." @Alamo Drafthouse South, 11:30am.

SPACES

Eegah and Wild Guitar Mondo Bizarro Presents. An infamous movie one-two. @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

MONDAY 17

Enter the Void (2010) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

James Brown: Live at the Boston Garden, 1968 (2004) (NR, 80 min.) **Music Monday.** This is the famous James Brown concert that was broadcast on WGBH in Boston on April 5, less than 24 hours after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As violence was breaking out across America, Boston Mayor Kevin White was considering canceling all public events. But the "hardest working man in show business" kept the date, dedicated the show to King, and electrified the audience. @Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm.

The Upsetter: The Life and Times of Lee 'Scratch' Perry (2008) *D: Ethan Higbee, Adam Bhala Lough.* (NR, 95 min.) **SXSW Presents.** This is a documentary portrait of the Jamaican musical legend. @Alamo Ritz, 7:30pm.

TUESDAY 18

Blood Rage (1983) *D: John Grissmer; with Jayne Bentzen, Ted Raimi, Louise Lasser.* (R, 82 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** The gore in this slasher movie is all the fault of an evil twin. @Alamo Ritz, 10:30pm.

Enter the Void (2010) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

Evangelion: 1.0: You Are (Not) Alone (2007) *D: Masayuki, Hideaki Anno.* (PG-13, 98 min.) This is the first in a four-part reimagining of Japan's classic apocalyptic mecha anime series. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm.

Happiness (Le Bonheur) (1965) See p.60.



Pretty in Pink (1986) *D: Howard Deutch; with Molly Ringwald, Jon Cryer, Andrew McCarthy, Harry Dean Stanton, Annie Potts, James Spader, Alexa Kenin, Margaret Colin, Gina Gershon, Dweezil Zappa, Kristy Swanson.* (PG-13, 96 min.) **Girlie Night.** In this John Hughes-written and -produced teen tale, Ringwald plays a girl from the wrong side of the tracks who doesn't know what to do when asked out by a rich hunk. @Alamo Ritz, 7:45pm.

imax

Hubble 3D (2010) *D: Toni Myers; narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio.* (NR, 45 min.) This breathtaking documentary follows NASA's May 2009 mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope. (*) Thu. (1/13)-Sat., 11:30am; Mon.-Thu. (1/20), 11:30am.

Legends of Flight (2010) *D: Stephen Low.* (NR, 42 min.) One hundred years of aviation history are explored in this 3-D film, which also looks to the future of commercial airline travel. Thu. (1/13)-Sat., 10:30am; Mon.-Thu. (1/20), 10:30am.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson.* (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of producing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (1/13)-Sat., 9:30am; Mon.-Thu. (1/20), 9:30am.

Tron: Legacy (2010) *D: Joseph Kosinski; with Jeff Bridges, Garrett Hedlund, Olivia Wilde, Bruce Boxleitner, Michael Sheen, James Frain, Anis Cheurfa.* (PG, 125 min.) See p.62 for review. (*) Thu. (1/13)-Thu. (1/20), 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:30pm.

WEDNESDAY 19

Enter the Void (2010) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:55pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

Evangelion: 2.0: You Can (Not) Advance (2009) *D: Masayuki, Kazuya Tsurumaki.* (NR, 109 min.) This is the second in a four-part reimagining of Japan's classic apocalyptic mecha anime series. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm.

Fleshpot on 42nd St. (1973) *D: Andy Milligan; with Laura Cannon, Neil Flanagan, Harry Reems.* (R, 80 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** Hustlers and pimps are on display. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid.

Food Design (2009) *D: Martin Habelsreiter, Sonja Stummerer; narrated by Dieter Moor.* (NR, 60 min.) **AMOA: Food and Film.** This German documentary reveals how color, form, shape, smell, and sound all influence the food we eat. See website for the special menu that will be served. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm.

RoboCop (1987) *D: Paul Verhoeven; with Peter Weller, Nancy Allen, Daniel O'Herlihy, Ronny Cox, Kurtwood Smith, Miguel Ferrer.* (R, 103 min.) **Tough Guy Cinema.** Half-man and half-machine but fully lethal, this RoboCop is indestructible. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

Santa Sangre (1989) *D: Alejandro Jodorowsky; with Faviola Elenka Tapia, Adan Jodorowsky, Thelma Tixou, Guy Stockwell, Sabrina Dennison, Blanca Guerra, Axel Jodorowsky.* (NR, 118 min.) Cult director Jodorowsky emerged from a long period of film inactivity with this wild explosion of movie madness that culls from Freud, Jung, and surrealism to create a bloody circus of the mind, which is told from the perspective of an escapee from a mental hospital. See "Beautiful Illusions," p.38, for an interview with the director. @Alamo Ritz, 6:30pm.

Tiny Furniture (2010) See p.60.

THURSDAY 20

The Big Lebowski Quote-Along (1998) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

Enter the Void (2010) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10:05pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

Evangelion: 2.0: You Can (Not) Advance (2009) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm. (See Wednesday.)

Gantz (2011) See p.62.

NBC Thursdays TV at the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm.

Nineties UltraMix Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 10pm. (See Thursday, 1/13.)

SPACES

Game Night at the Drive-in Pop Culture Soup. First a game of *Scene It?* will be played, then the winning team picks an Eighties film to watch. (Players need to bring their own DVDs.) @Blue Starlite Drive-In, 7pm.

The Princess Bride (1987) *D: Rob Reiner; with Cary Elwes, Billy Crystal, Mandy Patinkin, Chris Sarandon, Christopher Guest, Wallace Shawn, André the Giant, Fred Savage, Robin Wright Penn, Peter Falk, Peter Cook, Mel Smith, Carol Kane.* (PG, 98 min.) **Austin Public Library: Based on Books.** William Goldman adapted his whimsical, comedic novel into a fairy tale for the screen. @Yarborough Branch Library, 6:30pm; free.

Check Film Listings online
for full-length reviews,
up-to-date showtimes,
archives, and more!
austinchronicle.com/film

offscreen

Austin FilmWorks: Production One Spring Registration Open Filmmaker Steve Mims covers issues of technology, design, and practical application of technique with this comprehensive, hands-on, 14-week series of classes. Registration is now open for the spring 2011 series; see website for details. *Classes begin Feb. 1. Tuesdays, 6:30-9pm. Studio A-7, 701 Tillery. \$960.* www.austinfilmworks.com.

Austin School of Film Classes Prime yourself for cinematic advancement with professional in all forms of digital media. See website for details. www.austinfilmworks.org/classes.

Call to Filmmakers: Faces of Austin This multimedia program screens on-demand films on the three wide-screen video displays in the City Hall atrium. Selected entries will be shown in a public screening during the "People's Gallery" exhibition in February at City Hall, on Channel 6, and online. See website for details. Application deadline: Jan. 28. 974-7860. www.cityofaustin.org/redevelopment/austinfaces.htm.

channelAustin Classes Austin's digital media center offers filmmakers professional, hands-on instruction in HD field equipment and studio production, plus affordable access to the latest high-end gear and software by Sony and Apple. Learn more on Mondays from 6 to 7pm. See website for details. 1143 Northwestern. www.channelaustin.org.

Reel Women Meeting: Meet The Board Wed., Jan. 19. 512/480-9291. Free. www.reelwomen.org.

The Screenplay Workshop: Register for Winter Classes All programs are taught by professional screenwriters in Central Austin classrooms. **Screenwriting Fundamentals** Tuesdays, Jan. 18-Feb. 15, 7-9:30pm, or Saturdays, Jan. 22-Feb. 19, 1:30-4pm. \$225. **Master Class** Tuesdays, Jan. 18-March 22, 7-9:30pm, or Saturdays, Jan. 22-March 26, 1:30-4pm. \$395. **Private Screenwriting Coaching and Consultation** also available. See website for details. www.thescreenplayworkshop.org.

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music

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

listings



Central Presbyterian Church, Saturday 15

Shearwater literally makes desert island albums. The local avian ensemble has mastered the art of the escape fantasy, creating a trilogy of savage

realms where narratives unfold through cryptic images and evocative arrangements. *Palo Santo* (2006) opened on the shores of Ibiza, the Mediterranean island where the album's subject, Nico, died of a stroke in the 1980s. *Rook* ('08) found inspiration in leader Jonathan Meiburg's studies of the striated caracara on the Falkland Islands, and last year's *The Golden Archipelago* provided the existential capstone.

"I guess all three records are about vanishing people and places, about insularity, isolation, and aloneness, and the dissonance between the natural world from which we came and the human world that we've created," notes Meiburg via e-mail. "They share a sort of detached, inhuman quality, too."

Ever the completists, Shearwater stages the three-album cycle – in its entirety – at Central Presbyterian,

the same venue where the band delivered a stunning performance of *Palo Santo* at South by Southwest 2007, shortly after signing to Matador Records for the album's expanded reissue. Now, Meiburg's ready to turn another page.

"I'm proud of these records, but I'm looking forward to putting these songs aside for a while and working on something very different," he concludes. "I just sent in the demos for our next record, which I think is going to be much more personal, immediate, economical, and visceral than the wide soundscapes of the 'Island Arc' records. By the time you get to the end of *The Golden Archipelago*, you're sort of floating over an unbroken expanse of blue ocean, and it seemed to me like it's best to roll the credits there ...

"Start over again on the mainland." – Austin Powell

EXPLODED DRAWING 4

Baby Blue Studio, Friday 14

The latest installment of this Texas electronic music sampler offers Austinite Craig Clouse cracking eardrums with *Shit & Shine*, a bottom-heavy, multidrummed combo reminiscent of Crash Worship's two-chord drone, though who knows what shape it will take tonight. In addition, Austin's *Sorne*, *El Nou Mon*, *One4All*, and *Sharkweek*, plus San Antonio's *Mnolo*, lay down the lacquer.

– Audra Schroeder

YELLOW BIKE PROJECT BENEFIT

United States Art Authority, Friday 14

God bless Austin for always having the perfect excuse for a benefit. Yellow Bike Project seeks help to "Raise the Rex," a "13-foot-tall, environmentally friendly, wind-powered" T. rex sculpture to reside at the new Yellow Bike HQ on Webberville Road. SuperLiteBike, No Mas Bodas, Os Ovni, Cowabunga Babes, and more locals help get things erect.

– Audra Schroeder

KOOL KEITH, BIG FREEDIA

Mohawk, Saturday 15

This pairing of old-school alien rap and NOLA bounce goes together like booty and clap. Kool Keith and his many personalities (Dr. Octagon, Dr. Doom, Black Elvis) merge to record live for an upcoming album, and if you've ever seen the Bronx-born spaced invader onstage, you know to expect anything. Big Freedia gets azzes in the air first. Dress appropriately (no sweatpants). Inside afterward, celebrate *AustinSurreal* kingpin Matt Sonzala's birthday with Bavu Blakes, Blackie, and Kydd.

– Audra Schroeder

live music venues p.68 ● roadshows + club listings p.70

PURE TEXAS BAND REUNION

Broken Spoke, Tuesday 18

Austin's response to the 1990s country revival was to pony up Don Walser's Pure Texas Band, righteous Lone Star ammunition against the hat acts. Fiddlers Howard Kalish and Jason Roberts reunite with veterans Floyd Domino, Phil Fajardo, Rick McRae, Bert Rivera, Scott Walls, and "Skinny" Don Keeling for an evening of music guaranteed to pack the Spoke's dance floor. It's a lineup so complete – including onetime Walser vocal student Slaid Cleaves – that the only thing missing from "Big Balls in Cowtown" would be a yodeling Walser himself.

– Margaret Moser

THE GHOST OF A SABER TOOTH TIGER

Cactus Cafe, Wednesday 19

Consider the Ghost of a Saber Tooth Tiger – Sean Lennon's collaboration with his girlfriend, fashion model Charlotte Kemp Muhl – a *Double Fantasy*. The couple's debut, *Acoustic Sessions*, released late last year on their own Chimera Music label, proved much more than just celebrity credentials, approaching 1960s avant-pop from a wistfully modern perspective. The Cactus should provide a rare look at their still-budding pop romance.

– Austin Powell

DARK WATER HYMNAL CD RELEASE

Mohawk, Thursday 20

Dark Water Hymnal's 2009 debut LP established Jeremy Ballard as a masterful weaver of narrative, but the ATX quintet's sophomore offering, *Collapse the Structure*, moves more in atmospheric pulls, capturing the same emotional depth but with more space between Andrea Couch's violin and Ballard's contemplative, almost National-inspired lyrics. Electro-poppers the Baker Family, shoegazing chanteuse Candi & the Strangers, and soul-punk jammers the Mole People open. Outside, Chicago hip-hop duo the Cool Kids and local up-and-comer Kydd kick it root down.

– Doug Freeman

soundcheck

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

GIRL TALK

Austin Music Hall, Friday 14
Sold out.

PONG, POCKET FISHRMEN

Continental Club, Friday 14
ATX weirdness, plus a Sexy Finger Champs reunion!

THE TEXAS TORNADOS

Antone's, Friday 14
Doug Sahm's legend lives on in the Tejano tornado.

JAMES ARTHUR'S MANHUNT

Beerland, Saturday 15
The former Golden Boy drops fuzz bombs, with a little help from John Schooley, Walter Daniels & Ralph White, and John Wesley Coleman.

THE ROYAL BUTCHERS

Continental Club, Saturday 15
Aaron Blount's rock & roll workout starts the night. The Ugly Beats and the Jade Idol wipe the floor.

AL JARREAU

Riverbend Centre, Sunday 16
C'mon, he wrote the theme to *Moonlighting*. 7:30pm.

JOE SIB

Capital City Comedy Club, Wednesday 19
Punk and comedy collide head-first. See austinchronicle.com/earache for more.

THE SOUR NOTES

Cactus Cafe, Thursday 20
Local pop tarts get intimate, along with the lovely luster of Little Lo.

AMY COOK, DAVID GARZA

Lamberts, Thursday 20
Letting the light in with two Austin songwriting gems.



2010's *don't-you-forget-about-mes*
at austinchronicle.com/earache

in-stores

Friday: **World Racketeering Squad**, the **Bell Riots**, the **Cocker Spaniels**, Trailer Space, 7pm



L - R: SHIT & SHINE (FRI., 1/14) | KOOL KEITH (SAT., 1/15) | AL JARREAU (SUN., 1/16) | THE GHOST OF A SABER TOOTH TIGER (WED., 1/19)

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SAT JAN 15 DOORS 9:30PM

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WITH THE SIDESHOW TRAGEDY
& MRS. GLASS

FRI JAN 21 DOORS 9PM

TRASHY THE KID

WITH OAK IS KEEPING,
WAITING FOR AUGUST & THE ANTIC ROMANTICS

SAT JAN 22 DOORS 9PM

LANGUAGE ROOM
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS SAINTS OF VALORY
& JAM DYNAMITE

SUN JAN 23 DOORS 8PM

THE VESPERS

WED JAN 26 DOORS 8PM

hello goodbye

WITH GOLD MOTEL
YOU, ME AND EVERYONE WE KNOW
& NOW, NOW EVERY CHILDREN

THU JAN 27 DOORS 9PM

MANIFESTO

WITH DESCENDENTS OF ERDRICK
& BRINK OF DISASTER

FRI JAN 28 DOORS 8PM

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& LUKE DOUCET**
WITH CHRIS HAWKES

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SHOW

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2-5* TINA DICO
JASON DOE

2-4* WIRETREE
FUTURE CLOUDS AND RADAR
& DARK WATER HYMNAL

2-12* RUBY JANE

2-17* THE PRETTY RECKLESS

2-18* BLACK PISTOL FIRE

2-19* SHE CRAVES
RADIO FALLOUT, HOUNDS OF JEZEBEL
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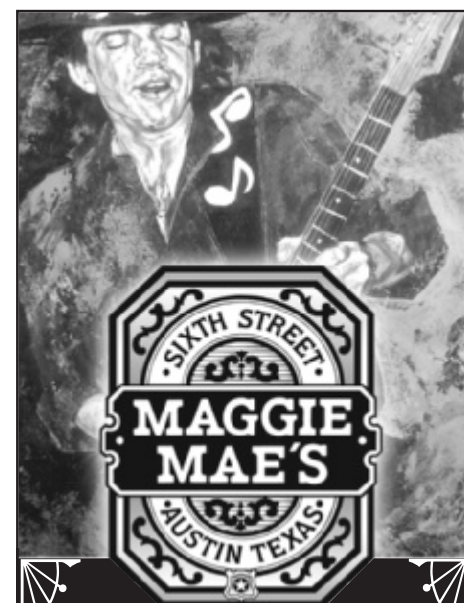
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ON THE DECK
MASH-UP DJ TETSUO
IN THE GIBSON ROOM

SATURDAY 1/15
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VIDEO DJ KENN ON THE DECK
DJ KIDD IN THE GIBSON ROOM

SUNDAY 1/16
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ALAN HAYNES

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THE NOCTURNALS
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THU 1/13 6PM
THE RETURN OF **HAPPY HOUR**
FEATURING THE LEGENDARY
IAN McLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND

FRI 1/14 9PM
DEREK WINTERS
LATER: **DJ KURUPT** SPINS 'TIL 2AM

SAT 1/15 9PM
MORE COWBELL
LATER: **DJ SPYDA** SPINS 'TIL 2AM

SUN 1/16 10PM
BRETT LOW 8PM
LATER: **SOUL KITCHEN** 10PM

MON 1/17 10PM
A Special Premier Party for the A&E Series "Heavy" 7PM
LATER: **BRETT LOW** 10PM

TUE 1/18 9PM
'GET LUCKY' TUESDAYS
DAN SIR DANCER

WED 1/19 9PM
THE FINEST KIND

THU 1/20 6PM
THE RETURN OF **HAPPY HOUR**
FEATURING THE LEGENDARY
IAN McLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND
LATER @ 10PM: **A FORMAL AFFAIR BAND**

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CHRIS BRECHT & DEAD FLOWERS
ST. CLOUD
CHRIS KING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 9PM
AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT
JEFF GALLGHER AND THE RENEGADE SOUTH
SNAPPING CHOMPSKY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 15 9PM
SHADOW SPECTRUM
BLACK THORN HALO
SNAKE SKIN PRISON
SUNDAY, JANUARY 16 5PM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18 6PM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19 6PM
BREWSKEEBALL LEAGUE PLAY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20 9PM
JESSE PODUNK & THE MOTHERFOLKERS
NICK WALKER
NICK KRAUS & HIS AUSTIN TORPEDOES
FRIDAY, JANUARY 21 9PM
AMPLIFIED HEAT
SPLIT HOOF
HOT CRUSH
SATURDAY, JANUARY 22 9PM
SOUL OF THE BOOT & STRANGETRIBE PRESENT
NIGHT FEVER VOL. 9 - BENEFITING SAFEPLACE
NICKODEMUS (NYC)
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CILANTRO BOOMBOX (INSIDE)
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THE BATORS (MONTREAL),
THE WRONG ONES
1308 EAST 4TH STREET AT NAVASOTA
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club listings

A ALL AGES **V** VENUE **R** ROADSHOW **★** RECOMMENDED **H** HEAR **M** MUSIC **O** ONLINE

THU 13

ANTONE'S KOOP Sweet 16 Benefit w/ Sara Hickman, Slaid Cleaves, Kelly Willis (9:00) **★**

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Sean Orr (8:00)

BEERLAND Aasim Syed Night w/ Dingo Methlab, Diamond Age, Kingdom of Suicide Lovers, Simple Circuit (9:00) **★R**

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Pee Wee Calvin & the Way 'Tis (8:00), J.T. Coldfire (10:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton **♪** (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Greg Brown **R**

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Justin Follin, Nish Initiative (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Much Love (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH The Jitterbug Vipers (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Bill Whitbeck, Jordan Minor, Dr. G. & the Mudcats

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Continental Graffiti (9:30); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30), Big Smith (10:00) **R**

COOL RIVER CAFE The Pictures

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Stephen Doster & Bill Carter (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Scotty B., Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her Fellas (6:00), Peter Stoltzman Trio w/ Mitch Watkins (9:00)

ELYSIUM My Velvet Crush, Shadow Giants (9:00)

EMO'S Ready the Messenger, A Second to Last CD Release, Sound Refraction, A Letter of Warning

EVANGELINE CAFE Danny Britt

FLAMINGO CANTINA Karmatron, Meganaut **♪**, Porifera (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettle (8:00)

G&S LOUNGE The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

THE GHOST ROOM The Down Here Band, the Lonesome Heroes, American Graveyard (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL The Texas Sapphires (7:00)

GUERO'S TACO BAR The Fabs **♪** (6:30)

THE HIGHBALL Two Hoots & a Holler (11:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL The Trim, Tony Scalzo, Chris Dye (10:00)

HOUSE WINE George Macias (8:00)

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Union Specific, Carter Beckworth (8:00)

JOVITA'S Devon, Armadillo Road, Country Willie (6:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00)

MOHAWK SafePlace, Front Steps Benefit w/ Bill Callahan, Hidden Ritual (9:00) **★**

MOMO'S Suzanne Sherwin, Possum Posse, Dead Left, Curtis McMurtry & God's Chosen People, Jeff Whitehead

MY PLACE BAR & GRILL My Place Trio (7:30)

NEWORDELI Bluegrass Open Mic w/ Eddie Collins

ONE 2 ONE BAR Patrice Pike, Michael Dillard (9:00)

PATSY'S CAFE Graham Weber (6:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Brooks Alan Brannon, Jimi Lee

RED 7 Inside: Twin Killers, Zlam Dunk, Brother/Ghost; Outside: Sketchtards, Moon, the Window Silhouette, Militant Babies **R**

See **austinchronicle.com** for complete listings.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, **clubs@austinchronicle.com**.

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to **austinchronicle.com/register**. Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

RED EYED FLY Did I Say Something?, Invisible Target, Charlie Whitman, Doc Holliday, Manipura **R**

RED FEZ Jean Claude Van Jamme (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Mike Ethan Messick

ROMEO'S Mixed Breed, Ghosts Along the Brazos (8:30)

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff Lofton (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00); Eric Lindell, George Devore, Tracorum (8:00) **R**

THE SCOOT INN Chris King, Chris Brecht & the Dead Flowers (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE The Max

T.C.'S LOUNGE Lisa Marshall (10:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Mashed Potato Johnson (6:00), Orquesta Ritmo (10:00)

TROPHY'S Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Eric Hanke (7:00)

ZTEJAS Eagle Pritchard Murray

roadshows

January

THU 13

Diamond Age, Beerland
Greg Brown, Cactus Cafe
Big Smith, Continental Club
Brother/Ghost, Twin Killers, Red 7

Did I Say Something?, Red Eyed Fly
Tracorum, Saxon Pub

FRI 14

Shit & Shine, Craig Clouse, Baby Blue Studio

Fox Island, Club 1808
Cousteau Press, Kniffight, Red Falcon, Elysium

Javelin, Rusty Lazer, Emo's
The Silvertones, Hornitos Tex-Mex Cafe

Robert Ellis, the Parish

Lee Buckner & the Riverbends, Red 7

Cornmeal, Stubb's

SAT 15

Rusty Lazer, Beauty Bar
James Arthur's Manhunt, Beerland

Royal Bangs, Madball, Cancer Bats, Cruel Hand, Emo's

Guns of Navarone, the Ghost Room

Max Stalling, Gruene Hall
Sons of Hercules, Hole in the Wall

Kool Keith, Big Freedia, Sissy Bounce, Mohawk

Frankie Hernandez, South First Food Court

Blackwater Revival, Triple Crown

Western Skies, Trophy's

SUN 16

This Romantic Tragedy, Mozart Season, Kingdom of Giants, Emo's

Last Ones Left, Come Forth, Red Eyed Fly

Al Jarreau, Riverbend Centre

MON 17

Frankie Hernandez, South First Food Court

TUE 18

Flowers in the Attic, Red 7

WED 19

Rooftop Vigilantes, Beerland
The Ghost of a Saber Tooth Tiger, Cactus Cafe

Fight the Quiet, Emo's
Written Vengeance, Red Eyed Fly

THU 20

The Goddamn Gallows, Beerland

The Founding Fathers, Continental Club

Air Waves, Emo's
The Parker Quartet, McCullough Theatre

Cool Kids, Napalm, KYDD, Mohawk

Paper Mache, the New Time, Red 7

Sleeping in the Aviary, Triple Crown

Transmission Entertainment



Mohawk

912 red river all are welcome.

Th 1/13 - Wintershow 2011 w/ Bill Callahan, Hidden Ritual (all proceeds donated to SafePlace and Front Steps) - 9pm
F 1/14 - Oh No Oh My (CD Release) w/ the Ugly Beats, The Laughing - 9pm
Sa 1/15 - Kool Keith w/ Big Freedia, Shane Shane & DJ Hobo D - 9pm // Matt Sonzala's B-day Afterparty - 12am
Su 1/16 - Anarchy Pro Wrestling - 5pm
M 1/17 - Betty White's Birthday (Look-alike contest, Golden Girls Marathon) - 5pm - 2am
Tu 1/18 - Red Dirt Rebellion, Shawn Nelson, The Rusticators (FREE!) - 10pm
Th 1/20 - OUT: Cool Kids w/ Kydd & Napalm - 8pm // IN: Dark Water Hymnal (cd release) w/ The Baker Family, Candi & The Strangers, Mole People - 10pm
F 1/21 - PJ & The Bear, The Boys Club - 10pm
Sa 1/22 - OUT: Pharcyde, Crew 54, Betaplayer, DJ Notion - 9pm // IN: Lovely Sparrows, One Hundred Flowers, Cartographers, Brackett & Co - 10pm
Su 1/23 - The Brigade, Sohns, Divide - 10pm
Tu 1/25 - Craig Marshall, Liars and Saints - 10pm
W 1/26 - Scion FREE show: Hex Dispensers, King Tuff - 10pm
Th 1/27 - Trashy Charmer, Karmatron, Wunderland - 10pm
F 1/28 - Seryn, (sunder), Sleep Good - 10pm
Sa 1/29 - Monotonix, Strange Boys, Shapes Have Fangs - 9pm // Retribution Gospel Choir, Til We're Blue or Destroy - 12am
Su 1/30 - Sugar & Gold + Yip Deciever w/ Nellyo - 10pm
M 1/31 - Jeremy Nail and Dustin Welch Song Swap - 10pm

for info on upcoming tours, check out **www.transmissionentertainment.com**

RED7

611 east 7th venue & wreck room

Th 1/13 - FREE INSIDE: Brother/Ghost, Zlam Dunk, Twin Killers, TBA - 10pm // FREE OUTSIDE: Militant Babies, The Window Silhouette, Moon, Sketchtards - 10pm
F 1/14 - The Anchor/Capitalist Kids Tour Kickoff, Bike Problems, Lee Buckner and the Riverbends - 10pm
Sa 1/15 - BeVo (a tribute to DEVO), The Promise Breakers, Francisco the Man, Distance Runner, Ghost Lapse - 10pm
Su 1/16 - NO COMPLY PARTY!
Tu 1/18 - Flowers in the Attic (CD Release), Abstract Atmosphere, We the Granada, Spanish Anchors - 10pm
W 1/19 - FREE Dance Party w/ DJ Walter Krunkite and DJ Drunk Girl - 10pm
Th 1/20 - Paper Mache, The New Time, Coppola, The Household - 10pm // FREE in the Lounge: Karaoke Underground
F 1/21 - Broken Gold, Flesh Lights, The Suede Uppers, Bike Problems, The Somethin' Aint Rights - 10pm // FREE INSIDE: Guest DJs: The Riverboat Gamblers!
Sa 1/22 - Tweak Bird, Scorpion Child, Fingaar Bangaar, Bridge Farmers, Contact Hi-V - 10pm // FREE INSIDE: Guest DJs: The Roller
Su 1/23 - Ralph White, Iba - 10pm // FREE INSIDE: Just Like Vinyl DJ Set
Tu 1/25 - Win-Tour, Society's Plague, Up in Arms - 10pm
W 1/26 - FREE Dance Party w/ DJ Walter Krunkite and DJ Drunk Girl
Th 1/27 - The Beta Rhythm, Lola Cola (members of Love Collector and The Winks), The Triggermen - 10pm
F 1/28 - EARLY: Recognize (CA), Tides of War, Die Among Heroes, Immortal Guardian - 5pm // LATE: The Krays, Exile, Sniper 66, The Butts - 10pm
Sa 1/29 - EARLY: Thieves, Carridale, Zlam Dunk, You're Done For - 5pm
LATE: Sick Of It All, Outbreak, Bitter End, Alpha and Omega, Losing Grip - 9:30pm // INSIDE: TERRORCLOWN ART SHOW
Su 1/30 - INTER ARMA (VA), Lions of Tsavo, Mindless, Asahara, Steel Bearing Hand, - 10pm

www.mohawkaustin.com

www.red7austin.com

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WEDNESDAY -
SATURDAY
6:30 - 9 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13
JITTERBUG VIPERS
swing

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14
JONAS ALVAREZ
latin

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15
TONY HARRIS & HOT TEXAS
western swing

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20
EL TULE
latin

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21
SIDE SHOW TRAGEDY
delta blues americana

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22
DUSTIN WELCH
americana bluegrass

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27
**JEFF PLAKENHORN &
BILL CARTER** americana

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28
JEFF LOFTON QUARTET
jazz

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29
BLUE SQUEEZE BOX
early jazz lounge

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14
PAUL MATTHEWS TRIO
afro-cuban

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15
TAMECA JONES
sassy, classy, jazz

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19
BOCK, BBQ & THE BLUES
\$2 Shiners & BBQ Specials
HARRY BODINE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21
ACOUSTIC JUNGLE latin

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22
STORMY LEE alt-country

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26
BOCK, BBQ & THE BLUES
\$2 Shiners & BBQ Specials
**HAROLD MCMILLIAN'S
VICTORY BLUES BAND**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28
**JIM STRINGER & THE AM
BAND** western swing, americana

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29
CHARLES THIBODEAUX
cajun

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JAN 15 **ETHEREAL
SPECTRUM**
JAN 16 **QUINN
WALTON**

JAN 17 **GIRL GUITAR
PRESENTS:
A NIGHT OF
WOMEN AND
SONG**

JAN 18 **OPA'N MIC**
JAN 19 **DOUG PEGG**
JAN 20 **SHAWN
MADDEN**

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THU 1/13 **MUCH LOVE** 6P
GROOVE NIGHT 9:30P

FRI 1/14 **TRENT DURHAM** 6-8P
RED ALERT 9P

SAT 1/15 **TABOO AUSTIN** 9:30P

SUN 1/16 **SOULUTION** 9:30P

MON 1/17 **JORDAN TANNER** 6P
OPEN MIC NITE 9P

TUE 1/18 **MARK GIBSON** 6P
THE INITIALS 9P

WED 1/19 **JOSH AND JASON** 6P
SPAZMATICS 9:30P

THU 1/20 **MUCH LOVE** 6P
TBA 9:30P

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CHRONTOURAGE

Thursday, Jan. 13

KOOPRADIO'S SWEET16BIRTHDAY PARTY

Antone's
213 W. Fifth

www.koop.org



Tuesday, Jan. 18

TEXASSTARSHOCKEY TEXASSTARS VS. GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS

Cedar Park Center
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austinchronicle.com/chronontage

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CHRONICLE

Happy Hour Daily 6-8p

THU Troy Campbell 6p
Open Mic hosted 7:45p

FRI Ray Prim w/ Katy Gray,
+ Kate Priestly, Wild Bill
& The Lost Knobs

SAT Will T. Massey
Tody Castillo
Halleyanna Finally 6p

SUN Mo McMorro 8p
Dickie Lee Erwin 6p

MON The Blue Grass Outfit 8p
Really Big Birds 6p

TUE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory
The Saddle 7p

WED Matt the Electrician & Southpaw Jones
Libby Koch 6p

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The Down Here Band

Friday Jan 14th 9:00pm

ATASH
Hard Proof Afrobeat
Guns Of Navarone
JASON POE
the Canvas Waiting
JOANNA BARBARA

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THURSDAY JANUARY 13 \$5
NATE VANCIL NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15
SUZANNE SHERWIN 6:30 THE POSSUM POSSE 7:45
THE DEAD LEFT 9
CURTIS MCMURTRY
& GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE 10:30
JEFF WHITEHEAD 12

FRIDAY JANUARY 14 \$10
MARK JUNGERS 6:30
EDDY HOBIZAL 9
JAMES HYLAND
& THE JOINT CHIEFS 10:15
RYAN HARKRIDER 12

SATURDAY JANUARY 15 \$10
ROBERT STEEL 6:30
JACK WILSON 8
ALY TADROS 9:15
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 10:30
THE BLUE HIT 12

SUNDAY JANUARY 16 \$5
DAYMOTHS 6:30 MOLLYWHOP 7:45
ULRICH ELLISON NETWORK
+ JAZZ JAM 9
CHRISTY HAYS & HER SUNDAY BEST 12
MONDAY JANUARY 17 \$5
CASS BROSTEAD NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15 JON PAUL 6:30
ARIELLE NICHOLE BAND 8
MIRANDA DAWN & THE LUCKY BREAK HORNS 9:15
JOHNNY GOUDIE 10:30
THOSE NIGHTS 12

TUESDAY JANUARY 18 \$7 / \$5 W/ STUDENT ID
DANIEL WHITTINGTON
& BRIAN DOUGLAS PHILLIPS 6:30
WORLD MUSIC NIGHT
BENEFITING MULTICULTURAL REFUGEE COALITION
SABROSON 7:45 RUMBILLION 9
ANCIENT FORWARD 10:30 THE ANDY BARHAM BAND 12

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 19 \$5
SCOTT SIMPSON NO COVER HAPPY HOUR 5:15
VANESSA LIVELY 6:45
ETHAN KENNEDY 7:45
DAN DYER 9
MEGGAN CARNEY 10:30
WILL EVANS 12

UP COMING SHOWS

ISLEY BROS. TRIBUTE
PERFORMED BY BEMBA FAMILY SOUL
SONIA MOORE-DAN DYER & JAMES ROBINSON
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WENY COLONNA
& DAVE MADDEN JAN 22

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

FRI 14

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN
Dawn Maracle ♪

ANTONE'S Lucky Tomblin, Texas
Tornados (9:00) ♣

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jeff Tveraas
(7:30)

BABY BLUE STUDIO Exploded
Drawing 4 w/ MNOLO,
Sharkweek, One4All, El Nou
Mon, Sorne ♪, Craig Clouse w/
Shit & Shine ♣ ♠

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan Haynes
(10:30)

BEAUTY BAR Phoenix Down ♪

BEERLAND Possessed by Paul
James (9:00)

THE BELMONT Hedda Layne (6:00)

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kevin
& the Krawlers, Birdlegg (8:00)

BOTTICELLI'S The Biscuit Rollers
(7:30)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons,
Gary P Nunn (8:00)

CANYON GRILL ICE HOUSE Onion
Creek Trio (6:30)

CEDAR STREET Trent Durham (6:00),
Red Alert ♪ (9:30)

CLUB 1808 DJ Woman From Mars,
Lead Pipe, Fox Island, Slugbug,
XPPRS-9 ♪ (10:00) ♠

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike
Flanigin Trio w/ Derek O'Brien,
Frosty (10:30); In the Club:
The Blues Specialists (6:30);
Sexy Finger Champs, Pocket
FishRmen, Pong (10:00) ♣

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station
Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris
Kimura Quartet

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mariachi
Tamazula (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Combo Mahalo ♪,
Elias Haslanger Quintet (6:00)

ELYSIUM Inside: Red Falcon,
Knifight, Cousteau Press,
11:11, Blind Tactic, & DJ
Scorpio; Outside: DJ Czech
One ♠

EMO'S Girl Talk Afterparty w/
Rusty Lazer, Javelin ♠

EVANGELINE CAFE Redd Volkaert

FADÓ The Blaggards (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill
& the Lost Knobs (6:00), Ray
Prim (8:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Hard Proof
Afrobeat ♪, Atash ♪ (10:00)

GIDDY UPS Jason Arnold & the
Stepsiders (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Dane Sterling, the DuQuines
(6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames

THE HIGHBALL Copa Kings (8:00),
Copa Kings (8:00)

HILL'S CAFE Billy Garza

HOLE IN THE WALL Western Motto,
Mont Lyons ♪, Ghostward
(10:00)

HORNITOS TEX-MEX CAFE The
Silvertones, Vicki Fowler, John
Dunn, TyeDye John ♠

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Public
Soul, Jordann Mitchell (8:00)

JOVITA'S Deadtown, the Hotrod
Hillbillies ♪ (8:00)

LAMBERTS The Jitterbug Vipers
(7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Derek Winters
(9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann
Atherton (7:00)

MOHAWK The Laughing, the Ugly
Beats ♪, Oh No Oh My CD
Release (9:00)

MOMO'S Mark Jungers, Eddy
Hobizal, James Hyland & the
Joint Chiefs, Ryan Harkrider

NEWORLEDEL Fredy Argir Band ♪

ONE 2 ONE BAR Kalu James ♪ &
Donny Jones, In the Pink
(11:00)

THE PARISH Robert Ellis, the
Soldier Thread, Alpha Rev ♠

THE PARLOR Will Cope (9:00)

PATSY'S CAFE Boxcar Preachers
(7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Zach
Harmon

RED 7 Lee Buckner & the
Riverbends, Bike Problems,
Capitalist Kids, the Anchor ♠

RED EYED FLY Erik Larson &
Peacemaker ♪, Big Chris Gates
& Gatesville, New Disaster ♪

RED FEZ Matt Creaton, Allen
Daniels Band (8:30)

THE RED ROOSTER Johnny Hootrock
(9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Bo Porter

ROME0'S Matt Creaton, HalleyAnna
Finlay, Jon Hogan, Maria Moss,
Craig Marshall ♪ (6:30)

RUTA MAYA Old Gray Mule (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Classic Rock
Open Jam w/ Breck English
(9:00)

SAXON PUB Earl Poole Ball & the
Cosmic Americans (6:00); Guy
Forsyth, the Drakes (9:00)

THE SCOOT INN Snapping
Chompsky, Jeff Gallagher &
the Renegade South, As Luck
Would Have It (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE
The Max

STUBB'S Cornmeal ♠

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS The Cocker
Spaniels, the Bell Riots, World
Racketeering Squad (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann
Band (6:00); Devil's Hollow,
Dertybird ♪, Holding Space
(9:00)

TROPHY'S James Summers, Scott
& Emily Zuniga, Nick Marcotte

UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY
Yellow Bike Project Benefit w/
SuperLiteBike, No Mas Bodas,
Os Ovni, Cowabunga Babez,
Art vs. Industry ♣

SAT 15

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN
Full Moon Fever ♪

ANTONE'S Jason Eady, the Trishas,
Micky & the Motorcars (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Rick Harvey
& the Texcellorators (10:30)

BEAUTY BAR Big Freedia/Kool Keith
Afterparty w/ Rusty Lazer,
Corrinne, (9:00) ♠

BEERLAND John Wesley Coleman,
Walter Daniels, Ralph White,
Schooley's One-Man Band,
James Arthur's Manhunt
(9:00) ♣ ♠

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Jo
Hell (11:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, the
Derailers (8:00)

CANYON GRILL ICE HOUSE Mystic
Skye Riders (5:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Andrew
Duplantis, Sweat Brothers,
Effinghammer (9:00)

CEDAR STREET Taboo Austin (9:30)

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Shearwater (8:00) ♣

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Midnight River Choir, Song
Swap w/ Cheatham Street
All-Stars

CHEER UP CHARLIE'S Girls Night w/
DJ Sue

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike
Flanigin Trio w/ Jimmie
Vaughan & Frosty (10:30);
In the Club: Redd Volkaert
(3:00); Royal Butchers, Jade
Idol, the Ugly Beats ♪ (10:00)
♣

COOL RIVER CAFE The Pictures,
the Sophisticates

DELI WERKS K.B. & the Headliners

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Patricia G.
(8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James
Speer

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Atash ♪ (10:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Ephraim Owens
Quintet (9:30)

EMO'S Outside: Falsetta, Cruel
Hand, Cancer Bats, Comeback
Kid, Madball; Inside: Geoff
Reacher, the Netherfriends,
Royal Bangs ♠

EVANGELINE CAFE Van Wilks

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Today
Castillo, Will T. Massey,
Halleyanna Finlay (6:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Guns of
Navarone, Jason Poe, the
Canvas Waiting, Joanna
Barbera ♪ (9:00) ♠

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Glenn Collins (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Chris Ruest (1:00),
Max Stalling (9:00) ♠

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Larry Lange &
the Lonely Knights (6:30)

HILL'S CAFE Buddy Lee

HOLE IN THE WALL Sons of
Hercules, the Flesh Lights,
Tempo Tantrums (10:00) ♠

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Ray
Bonneville, Colin Gilmore
(8:00)

JOVITA'S Girl Guitar, Pee Wee
Moore, Whiskey Shiver, Charlie
Hurtin' & the Hecklers

LAMBERTS Whalers (10:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE More Cowbell
(6:00), DJ Spyda (9:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Jeff Banks (7:00)

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THU, JAN 13 6-8PM **TONY HARRISON**
8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **JESSE DAYTON**

FRI, JAN 14 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **GARY P. NUNN**

SAT, JAN 15 8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:30PM **DERAILERS**

TUE, JAN 18 8-12PM REUNION OF **DON WALSER'S BAND**
PURE COUNTRY

WED, JAN 19 6-8PM **SUNSET VALLEY BOYS**
8-9PM DANCE LESSONS
9:15PM **LUCAS HUDGINS**

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Hot Food!
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all ages welcome!

Music Line-up

THUR 1/13 Graham Weber
FRI 1/14 Boxcar Preachers
SAT 1/15 Jitterbug Vipers
TUES 1/18 Sand & Sunnie
WED 1/19 La Tampiquena
THUR 1/20 Jodi Adair

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- 2/11 LUKAS NELSON & THE PROMISE OF THE REAL (LATE)
- 2/12 REVEREND HORTON HEAT
- 2/24 COREY SMITH
- 2/25 CORY MORROW
- 3/25 G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE (TIX THRU C3CONCERTS.COM)

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THE SCABS
NICOLE DELCIZE

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KOOP RADIO'S SWEET 16TH BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER

KELLY WILLIS
SLAID CLEEVES & SARAH HICKMAN

FRIDAY JANUARY 14TH

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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SATURDAY JANUARY 15TH

MICKY AND THE MOTORCARS

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SUNDAY JANUARY 16TH

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DOORS 7/SHOW 7:30

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SCOTT NELSON
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DAN K.
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WEDNESDAY JANUARY 19TH

HUMP NIGHT DANCE PARTY
- WITH -
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THURS JANUARY 27
MONTE MONTGOMERY

FRI JANUARY 28
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9:30 Ghosts Along the Brazos

Fri, Jan 14

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8:00 Jon Hogan and Maria Moss
10:00 Craig Marshall

Sat, Jan 15

7 The Tim Curry Trio
8 Jessica Shepherd Band
10 James Williams

Sun, Jan 16

7-9 Brian Hudson

Wed, Jan 19

8-10 SongWriterWeekly.com
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ALVIN CROW & THE PLEASANT VALLEY BOYS
w/ JONATHAN TERRELL

JANUARY 15
LEROI BROTHERS
w/ FLOUNDERS WITHOUT EYES

JANUARY 21
MOVING MATTER
w/ JABARVY, DIMITRI'S ASCENT, THE TRIM

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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

MOHAWK Sissy Bounce, Big Freedia, Kool Keith (9:00) **CR**

MOMO'S Robert Steel, Jack Wilson, Aly Tadros, Matt the Electrician, the Blue Hit

ND AT 501 STUDIOS Battleship Down, Trashy Charmer, Christian Bland (9:00)

NEWORLEDELI Made in the Shade

ONE 2 ONE BAR Big Circle, TX; Uncle Bruno (8:30)

THE PARISH Cody Jinks, Philip Griffin, Jarrod Birmingham (9:00)

THE PARLOR The Anti-Scene (9:00)

PATSY'S CAFE The Jitterbug Vipers (6:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Ghosts Along the Brazos

RED 7 Ghost Lapse, Distance Runner, Francisco the Man, Promise Breakers, Bevo (9:00)

RED EYED FLY Wolve, Dead Rock Stars, Knuckle Sammich, Hyde Park Showdown, El Charco

RED FEZ Gabe Hayes, Tje Austin (10:00)

THE RED ROOSTER Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN JWW & the Prospectors

ROMEO'S Tim Curry Trio, Jessica Shepherd, James Williams (7:00)

SAXON PUB Sara Petite, Warren Hood & the Goods, Deadman (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Southern Front, Black Thorn Halo, Shadow Spectrum (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE The Max

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS LC Rocks (9:00)

SOUTH FIRST FOOD COURT Frankie Hernandez (4:00) **R**

STARDUST CLUB The Top Kats (10:00)

STUBB'S Mrs. Glass, the Sideshow Tragedy, Black Bone Child (10:00)

TOM'S TABOOLEY Danny Fast Fingers (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Turbo 350, Winter Dance Party, Blackwater Revival (10:00) **R**

TROPHY'S Paul Banks, the Light Upstairs, Lazy Native, Pastures, Western Skies (10:00) **R**

VICTORY GRILL Mix It Up Saturdays w/ DJ Junior Vibes

BB ROVERS Open Mic (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (9:00)

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Kevin & the Krawlers, Travis Green (8:00)

BLUE VELVET Fractals (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (8:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Ted Roddy (4:00)

CEDAR STREET Soulution (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon Dee Graham & Andrew DuPlantis, Mike Flanigin Trio (8:30); In the Club: Junior Brown & Tanya Rae (7:00), Stone River Boys (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Enlaces Latinos (noon)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jacob Wise Trio (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S This Time November, Kingdom of Giants, Mozart Season, This Romantic Tragedy **R**

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Dickie Lee Erwin, Living Room Show w/ Mo (6:00)

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire (5:00), Blues Jam (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00), Two Hoots & a Holler (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Ruby Jane Smith (12:30), Clay McClinton (5:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Mitch Webb & the Swindles (3:00)

THE HIGBALL Joel Hofmann Band, Rooster Jenkins, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5 (8:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL White Dress, Tiger of Bengal (10:00)

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR Open Mic (4:00)

HOUSE WINE David Webb (6:00)

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:00)

JOVITA'S Broken Knee Benefit w/ Cerronato, Dahebegebees, Myrna Cabello (7:00)

LAMBERTS Opus de Funk (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Soulkitchen (9:00)

MOMO'S Daymoths, Mollywhop, Ulrich Ellison, Christy Hays & Her Sunday Best

NEWORLEDELI Lorrie Singer w/ Bradley Kopp & John Fannin (1:00)

NUOVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)

POODLE DOG LOUNGE Jack Geiser CD Release (8:00)

RED EYED FLY Come Forth, Blak Bird, Lady Swan, Shiny Empire, Last Ones Left **R**

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt, DJ Cauze-One (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen

RIVERBEND CENTRE Al Jarreau (7:30) **CR**

ROMEO'S Brian Hudson (7:00)

SAXON PUB Bobby Whitlock & CoCo Carmel, the Resentments, Nick Verzosa, Ghosts Along the Brazos (6:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE Brent Michael Wood

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Grant Ewing, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

TROPHY'S Magnolia Cafe Night (9:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Jeff Lofton (11:00am), Jim's Country Jam (7:00)

Z'TEJAS The Mingtones (6:00)

MON 17

ANTONE'S Austin Blues Society (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Beg for It w/ Nathan Hendrick (8:00)

BAR 141 Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:00)

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Southside Ramblers, J.T. Coldfire (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

CEDAR STREET Jordan Tanner (6:00), Open Mic w/ Jordan Tanner (9:30)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: A Is Red, Bruce James Soultet (9:00); In the Club: Continental Graffiti (6:30), Two Hoots & a Holler (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Scotty B. Trio (6:00), Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Really Big Birds (6:00), the Bluegrass Outfit (8:00)

THE GRAND Criaturas

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Leo Rondeau, Mike & the Moonpies (10:00)

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 14
ZACH HARMON

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15
GHOST ALONG THE BRAZOS

MONDAY, JANUARY 17
JOEL WARREN

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19
OPEN MIC w/
MARK ALLAN ATWOOD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20
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THUG #7

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THURSDAY 1.13 *SURF/ROCK* DOORS 9:00

PORIFERA

THE NEMATODES
SOMETHING CALLED NOTHING

FRIDAY 1.14 *!!REGGAE!!* DOORS 9:00

ELEVEN FINGERED CHARLIE

AXIS UNITY
FOX & CROW
SINIZEN

SATURDAY 1.15 *SKA/REGGAE/SOUL* DOORS 9:00

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THE BANDULUS

BENNY VS. THE BEAST
THE BUZZKILLERS

WEDNESDAY 1.19 *!!REGGAE!!* DOORS 8:30

DREADNECK NIGHT: NO COVER

MAU MAU CHAPLAINS

UPCOMING SHOWS

01.20: PROFESSOR COWBOY & THE SPACE CRAZIES,
THE NATURALS, GEOGRAPHY
01.21: MEGAFUNA, OPPOSITE DAY,
SUITE UNRAVELING, MUCHOS BACKFLIPS
01.22: DON CHANI, IVORY GHOST

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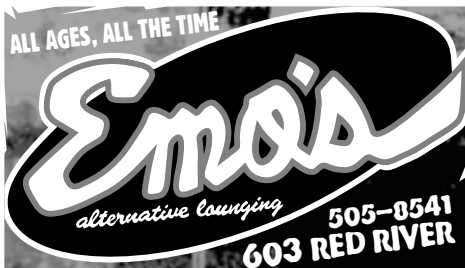
Thu 1/13
UNION SPECIFIC 8:00
CARTER BECKWORTH 10:00

Fri 1/14
PUBLIC SOUL 8:00 \$5
JORDAN MITCHELLE 10:30

Sat 1/15
RAY BONNEVILLE 8:00
COLIN GILMORE 10:00 \$5

Sun 1/16
TED HALL'S BLUES JAM 8:00

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

INSIDE: **A LETTER OF WARNING**
SOUND REFRACTION • A SECOND TO LAST
READY THE MESSENGER (CD RELEASE)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

INSIDE/DOORS @10PM: **GIRL TALK**
OFFICIAL AFTERPARTY:
JAVELIN • RUSTY LAZER (BIG FREEDIA'S DJ)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

OUTSIDE:
MADBALL • COMEBACK KID
CANCER BATS • CRUEL HAND • FALSETTA

INSIDE: **ROYAL BANGS**
NETHERFRIENDS • GEOFF REACHER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

INSIDE: **MOZART SEASON**
(FR. SACRAMENTO, EQUAL VISION RECORDS)
KINGDOM OF GIANTS (FR. CA)
THIS TIME NOVEMBER

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

INSIDE: **THE LONESOME HEROES**
RICKY STEIN AND THE .44
THESE MAD DOGS OF GLORY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

INSIDE: **BEN BAXTER**
SHEER KAHN AND THE SPACE CASE
FIGHT THE QUIET • JUNGLESET • WHALERS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

INSIDE: **YELLOW FEVER • AIR WAVES**
HIDDEN RITUAL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

OUTSIDE: **UNDEROATH • THURSDAY**
ANIMALS AS LEADERS • A SKYLIT DRIVE
INSIDE: **SUICIDE PISTOLS**
STUMBLEDRUNK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

TIX@C3CONCERTS.COM
101 X PRESENTS: OUTSIDE:
THE GET UP KIDS
STEEL TRAIN • RIVER CITY EXTENSION
INSIDE: **MAGNIFICO**
INSECT SEX ACT • HUG

COMING SOON: 2/2 FREE ENERGY WITH THE POSTELLES, THE MIDGETMENT (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/3 DARWIN DEEZ WITH FRIENDS (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com)
• 2/4 FINNTROLL, ENSIFERUM, ROTTEN SOUND, BARREN EARTH, THE BRIGADE (IN) • 2/5 TIMES OF GRACE (MEMBERS OF KILLSWITCH ENGAGE), STRAIGHT LINE STITCH, WAR OF AGES, COURSE OF RUIN
• 2/7 SMITH WESTERNS W/ YUCK (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/8 WIND & SCOTT KELLY (FEAT. MEMBERS OF NEUROSIS, ST VITUS, THE OBSESSED, SHRINEBUILDER), ANCIENT WISDOM (IN)
• 2/9 PASSAFIRE W/ SINZEN, TIN CAN PHONE (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/11 MAX BEMIS (SAY ANYTHING), DIGNAN (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/14 THE D.R.I. (DIRTY ROTTEN IMBECELES), DEATH
ANGEL, LAZARUS AD, EARLY MAN, BONDED BY BLOOD, HEXEN • 2/15 NOBUNNY (IN) • 2/18 101X PRESENTS: TAPES 'N TAPES WITH OBERHOFFER (OUT, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/19 101X PRESENTS
SEBADOH WITH QUASI (OUT, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/22 LUCERO W/ ROBERT ELLIS & THE BOYS (OUT, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 2/28 ELEPHANT 6 HOLIDAY SURPRISE TOUR (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com)
• 3/4 101X PRESENTS: YOUNG THE GIANT W/ THE CANVAS WAITING, KITTEN (IN, TIX @ C3Concerts.com) • 4/9 THE PAINS OF BEING PURE AT HEART W/ TWIN SHADOW (OUT, TIX @ C3Concerts.com)

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

INSIDE: **AUTHORITY ZERO**
FLATFOOT 56 • LIONIZE • ATHEL

MONDAY, JANUARY 24

INSIDE: **YOUNG PRISMS**
(KANINE RECORDS)
RINGO DEATHSTARR
MELTED TOYS • PURE ECSTASY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

OUTSIDE: TIX@C3CONCERTS.COM
MTV FRESHMAN FIVE AND SPIN PRESENT:

BEST COAST
WAVVES • NO JOY

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

TIX@C3CONCERTS.COM
101X PRESENTS: OUTSIDE:
AGAINST ME!
CHEAP GIRLS • FENCES
INSIDE: **SHURE'S SM58 GIVE IT VOICE TOUR**
W/ FORGOTTEN DREAMS • JJ & ROUGES
THE PULSE ELECTRIC

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

INSIDE: **BREMEN RIOT**
HUNDRED VISIONS
SALLY CREWE & THE SUDDEN MOVES • JBE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

INSIDE: **AMPLIFIED HEAT**
WHITE GHOST SHIVERS AS BOOMTOWN
MR. LEWIS & THE FUNERAL 5
THE HI-TONES

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

101 X PRESENTS: OUTSIDE:
BADFISH A TRIBUTE
TO SUBLIME
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS:
SCOTTY DON'T • FULL SERVICE
INSIDE: **FIRE IN THE SKIES**
(MATCHLESS RECORDS)
PARLEY (WEST 80 RECORDS/
STANDBY RECORDS)
CRITICAL ASSEMBLY • AGAINST THE ARCHAIC
HEAD CRUSHER

MONDAY, JANUARY 31

INSIDE: **SCARE DON'T FEAR**
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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM MONDAY

HOUSE WINE Singer-Songwriter
Open Mic w/ Scott Andrews
(8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE Brett Low Band
(9:00)

MOHAWK Betty White's Birthday
Party (8:00)

MOMO'S Arielle Nicole, Miranda
Dawn & the Lucky Break
Horns, Johnny Goudie, Those
Nights

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John
Wilson (8:00)

MUGSHOTS Acoustic Open Mic
(8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Joel
Warren ♪

RED FEZ DJ Cauze-One & DJ Taco
(10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Jack Higginbotham

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician ♪,
Lonelyland, Jeff Plankenhorn
(7:00)

SOUTH FIRST FOOD COURT Open
Mic w/ Frankie Hernandez
(7:00) ♪

TRIPLE CROWN Mojo + Vibe (6:00),
Electric Mayhem (9:00)

VICTORY GRILL Open Pro Blues Jam
w/ Matthew Robinson, Harold
McMillan (9:00)

TUE 18

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday
w/ Derek O'Brien,
Malford Milligan (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time
Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The
Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne
Smith (7:00)

BEERLAND Manic Mongrel, This
Party's Lame, Well-Dressed
Thieves

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR
Birdlegg, Jo Hell (8:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Pure Texas Band
Reunion ♪

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Ashley Monical, Lisa Marshall

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim
Owens Experience (10:30);
In the Club: Toni Price (6:30);
Warren Hood & the Goods,
Ghosts Along the Brazos
(10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station
Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Scotty
B. (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith
w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Wayne
Salzman (9:30)

ELYSIUM Nineties Night w/ DJ
Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

EMO'S These Mad Dogs of Glory,
Ricky Stein & the .44's, the
Lonesome Heroes

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh
(6:00), Kevin Gallagher
(8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik
Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
The Conclusion Jumpers, Bret
Graham (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Songwriters Night w/
Tom Gillam (6:00)

THE HIGHBALL Boombox ATX
(10:00)

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night
w/ Jon Burkland

JOVITA'S Arielle Nicole CD Release
(8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE Dan Sir Dancer
(9:00)

MOHAWK Inside: Mike & the
Moonpies ♪ (5:00), the Dark
Water Hymnal (9:00); Outside:
Rusticators, Shawn Nelson,
Red Dirt Rebellion (9:00)

MOMO'S Daniel Whittington, Brian
Douglas Phillips ♪, Sabrosan,
Rumbullion, Ancient Forward

ONE 2 ONE BAR Karl Morgan,
Dahebegebees (8:00)

PATSY'S CAFE Sand & Sunnie
(6:30)

RED 7 Spanish Anchors, We
the Granada, Abstract
Atmosphere, Flowers in the
Attic CD Release (9:00) ♪

RED EYED FLY Betsy Phillips,
Lindsay Schultz, Aimee Mac,
James Moran

RED FEZ Bruce Smith (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music
Open Mic (6:00)

SAXON PUB The Twalls (6:00);
Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude
Army, Kurt BoDean, Tessa
(8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE
Five Ways From Sunday

TOM'S TABOOLEY Open Mic (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN The Kinfolk (6:00);
Black Top Ninjas, the Black
Squeeze ♪, Old Gray Mule
(9:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Michael Reaux
& the Outriders ♪ (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Robert Kelly (6:00)

WED 19

ANDERSON MILL TAVERN
Mike Milligan & the
Altar Boyz

ANTONE'S Royal Forest, the Black
& White Years (9:00)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735
Roy Heinrich & the Pickups,
Lonesome Dave Fisher (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Brooke Avid
(10:00)

BEERLAND Teenage News, In
Beds ♪, Literature, A Giant
Dog, Rooftop Vigilantes ♪

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Jamie
Krueger, Sonny Wolf (8:00)

CACTUS CAFE The Ghost of a Saber
Tooth Tiger (8:30) ♪ ♪

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Chinaski, A
Likely Few, Decker, Casey
Hubble ♪ (7:00)

CEDAR STREET Josh & Jason, the
Spazmatics (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Texas Renegade, Kent Finlay's
Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon
Blondell; Trube, Farrell & Sniz
(8:30); In the Club: Hot Club
of Cowtown (6:30), Jon Dee
Graham, James McMurtry
(10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station
Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Driskill Bar:
Bruce Smith (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE James
Speer (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs
(6:00), Monster Big Band
(9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin
Spice, DJ Edminister

EMO'S Whalers, JungleSet, Fight
the Quiet, Sheer Khan & the
Space Case ♪, Ben Baxter ♪ ♪

ENZO Salsa Night w/ O Positivo
(9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Libby
Koch, Matt the Electrician ♪,
Southpaw Jones ♪ (6:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Robert Banta & the Fabulous
Four (9:00)

GRUENE HALL The Will Callers
(6:00)

THE HIGHBALL Black Red Black
(10:00)

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DANNY BRITT

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 18 • 6PM

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FAMILY
KEVIN
GALLAUGHER 8PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19 • 7PM

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DEADTOWN 8-9:45 PM \$5 COVER
AUTOMATIC
WEEKEND 10:15-11:30 PM
SATURDAY JANUARY 15
GIRL GUITAR 6-7PM HAPPY HOUR
PEEWEE MOORE 8 PM \$5 COVER
WHISKEY SHIVERS 9:30PM
CHARLIE HURTIN & THE HECKLERS 11-12:45 PM
SUNDAY JANUARY 16
BROKEN KNEE BENEFIT 7-11 PM
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PAST PRAYERS

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1/22 MASONIC, BAKER FAMILY, 1/29 HICKOIDS,
BEAUMONTS, CHURCHWOOD, CUNTO,
2/9AND2/10 JONATHAN RICHMAN
2/11AND2/12 MOTHER HIPS

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM WEDNESDAY

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Jess Klein
All-Star Jam, Nakia (8:00)

JOVITA'S Tex Thomas & the
Danglin' Wranglers, Cash Band
(6:00)

LA PALAPA Acoustic w/ James

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick
McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd
(6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE The Finest Kind
(9:00)

MARIA MARIA Jeff Lofton Trio
(7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT The Drakes (7:30)

MOMO'S Vanessa Lively ♪, Ethan
Kennedy, Dan Dyer ♪, Meggan
Carney, Black Owl Society

ONE 2 ONE BAR Big Circle, TX;
Dan K. (8:30); Joe Marson
(11:00)

PATSY'S CAFE La Tampiquena ♪
(7:00)

PLUSH Weight w/ the Herd

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Open
Mic w/ Mark Allen Atwood

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly"
Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 DJ Walter Krunkite, DJ
Drunk Girl

RED EYED FLY B4 the Storm,
Written Vengeance, Gut Bunny
Revival, Agave Love ♪ R

RED FEZ Atash ♪ (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Ben Worley

ROMEO'S The Saddle (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Amy Annelle (6:00);
Dance Lessons, La Mona Loca
(9:00)

SAXON PUB The Nortons (6:00);
Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros,
the Duquaines, HalleyAnna
Finlay (8:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE
Blue Finger Disco

TRIPLE CROWN Molly Hayes (6:00);
Loose Leaf, Are You Crazy?,
Midnight Thirty (9:00)

TROPHY'S East Texas Kings, Black
Owl Society, A Spy Ring (8:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Eggjam
(5:30), Ptarmigan (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Jeff Plankenhorn, Stephen
Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

THU 20

ANNIES CAFE & BAR Jim
Cullum Jazz Band
(7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan Haynes
(8:00)

BEERLAND James Hunicutt, Jayke
Orvis & the Broken Band, the
Goddamn Gallows R

BLUE MOON ROCK & BLUES BAR Pee
Wee Calvin & the Way 'Tis
(8:00), J.T. Coldfire (10:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison,
Dance Lessons, Jesse
Dayton ♪ (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE Sour Notes ♪, Little
Lo (8:00) ♡

CANYON GRILL ICE HOUSE Bob Tom
Reed (6:00)

CEDAR STREET Much Love (6:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Stonehoney

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Continental Graffiti (9:30);
In the Club: Planet Casper
(6:30); the Lifters, Honky, the
Founding Fathers (10:00) R

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Robert
Kelley, Mark Goodwin Trio
(7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Albanie & Her
Fellas (6:00)

ELYSIUM Radio Fallout, Facebleeder,
Spitting Angels (10:00)

EMO'S Hidden Ritual, Air Waves,
YellowFever R

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy
Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/
Lisa Kettle (8:00)

G&S LOUNGE The Cornell Hurd
Band (8:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Chris Catalena
& the Native Americans, Ryan
Rooney, Alex Maas, Stella
Rose (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON
Alvin Crow (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Bo Porter (6:00)

THE HIGHBALL Two Hoots & a Holler
(11:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Perfect Pants ♪,
Holiday, Hymn for Her, Fat Man
& Little Boy (10:00)

HOUSE WINE George Macias (8:00)

JAX NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE Union
Specific (8:00)

LAMBERTS Amy Cook, David Garza
(10:30) ♡

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the
Bump Band (6:00), A Formal
Affair (10:00)

MCCULLOUGH THEATRE The Parker
Quartet (8:00) R

MOHAWK Inside: The Mole People,
Candi & the Strangers, the
Baker Family, Dark Water
Hymnal CD Release (9:00):
Outside: Napalm, KYDD, Cool
Kids (8:00) ♡ R

MOMO'S Rain Perry, All Day, the
Dead Left, Tory Thompkins,
King Corduroy

MY PLACE BAR & GRILL My Place
Trio (7:30)

ND AT 501 STUDIOS Soul Asylum
Hoot (10:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Patrice Pike,
Michael Dillard (9:00)

THE PARISH The Chorderoys, Isle
of White ♪, Again for the Win,
Driver F (9:00)

PATSY'S CAFE Jodi Adair (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP ROADHOUSE Roger
Len Smith

RED 7 The Household, Coppola,
the New Time ♪, Paper Mache
(9:00) R

RED EYED FLY Sara Joyner, Broken
Harps, Kicks & Khords,
Children, Park & Murray

RED FEZ Jean Claude Van Jamme
(9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Opie Hendrix

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Jeff
Lofton (7:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Caribbean
Steelman Trio (7:00)

SAXON PUB Eightysixxed (6:00);
Honeybrowne, George Devore,
Texas Tycoons (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Nick Kraus & His
Austin Torpedoes ♪, Nick
Walker, Jesse Podunk & the
Motherfolkers (9:00)

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILLE
11th Hour

T.C.'S LOUNGE Lisa Marshall
(10:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Eric Hisaw (6:00);
Devil in the Drink, Murdock's,
Sleeping in the Aviary,
Newlywed (9:00) R

TROPHY'S Chadd Thomas & the
Crazy Kings

Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

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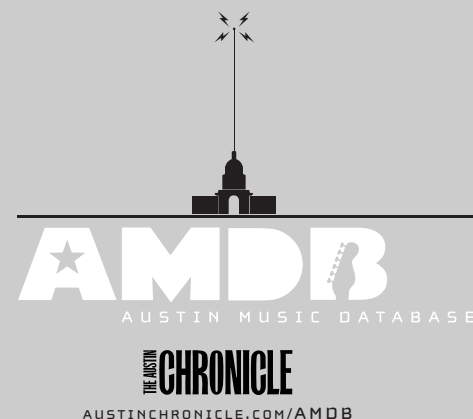
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MUSIC POLL BALLOT

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN ALBUM OF THE YEAR:

BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND:

Best Performing Bands

ROCK:

PUNK:

METAL:

INDUSTRIAL/GOTH:

HIP-HOP/DJ:

INDIE:

JAZZ:

BLUES/SOUL/FUNK:

INSTRUMENTAL:

EXPERIMENTAL:

COUNTRY/BLEUGRASS:

ROOTS ROCK:

FOLK:

LATIN TRADITIONAL:

LATIN ROCK:

WORLD MUSIC:

COVER BAND:

U-18 (MAJORITY OF MEMBERS UNDER 18):

NONE OF THE ABOVE:

Best Austin Musicians (BAND IF APPLICABLE)

FEMALE VOCALS:

MALE VOCALS:

ELECTRIC GUITAR:

ACOUSTIC GUITAR:

BASS:

DRUMS/PERCUSSION:

KEYBOARDS:

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT:

SONGWRITER:

PRODUCER (PRODUCER'S NAME, ALBUM TITLE):

Related Categories

NEW CLUB:

LIVE MUSIC VENUE:

ACOUSTIC VENUE:

ALL-AGES VENUE:

RECORD STORE:

RADIO STATION:

RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):

After three decades, you know the drill: This is your chance to duct-tape the critics' mouths shut and speak up about Austin music. Not sure whom to vote for? Turn on the radio, drop by the local record stores, or head to the clubs. Your favorite band is probably playing.

RADIO PERSONALITY (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):

LOCAL LABEL:

Texas Music Hall of Fame Nominations

Is Biscuit in the Hall of Fame? What about Roky and Willie? Previous winners are listed on the Web at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll/fame. (The answer is yes.) Please circle one or fill in the blank*:

... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead	Okkervil River
Balcones Fault	Poison 13
Bubble Puppy	Shiva's Headband
Electromagnets	Standing Waves
Glass Eye	Tortilla Factory
Greezy Wheels	The Wagoneers
MC Overlord	Watchtower

OTHER NOMINEE*:

Who are these people, and why should you vote for them? Visit the poll ballot online at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll for more information!

Required Information

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ONLY BALLOTS WITH A FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS WILL BE COUNTED!

Please mail to: Music Poll
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• Entries must be postmarked by MONDAY, JAN. 31, 2011. • You can vote either by this mail-in ballot or on the Web at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll. • Ballot must be mailed in; no hand deliveries accepted. • Absolutely no more than one ballot to an envelope. • Photocopied ballots will not be accepted. • Ballot-stuffing may be punishable by public ridicule or a week in the stocks.

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BLACK BBW

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LOOKING FOR FWB


I would like to have an ongoing purely sexual relationship with a guy. I want someone who is attractive, adventurous and dedicated to a woman's pleasure. **SassyGal**, 25,  **#134514**

Flavor of the Week
"TIGHT FIRM EXOTIC"
I'm 5'5" petite Chicana. Looking for a little late night fun. Love the outdoors and trying new things. Love to be adventurous and daring. **hottchica**, 30,  **#134242**



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SWEETANDCLASSY

Hello to all the gentlemen my names goldengoddest I'm a 33 year old sub-missive slave I'm looking for a very true dominate master please feel free to email me thanks. **goldengoddest**, 33,  **#134002**

GET POUNDED...

I'm cute, bisexual. Primarily looking for a good-looking guy to dominate me. Premium on a nice body. Hold me down, slap, call names, pull my hair, lead by collar. **CatGotYourTongue**, 30, **#133407**


TASTY PIECE

Tasty piece looking for her tasty piece match. Looking for a sexy white or Latin (wo)man that loves their women thick and sweet. 420 friendly. **phoenixphenom**10, 22,  **#133164**


NEED EXCITEMENT

would love to exchange explicit e-mail's with men, but am married and cannot meet. love kinky. **milf38**, 38, **#132955**


SWEET, FRIENDLY, PLUS-SIZE

I'm looking for friends and possibly friends with benefits. I am shy but open up really quickly. ;) Send me a message. You won't regret it. **Willow1113**, 19,  **#129849**


MAYBE SOMETHING MORE

I am not a thin, perfect Barbie type. I'm looking for an attractive M 25-36 who can keep up. **litred**, 33,  **#128782**


SEXYVIXENWANTSTOPLAY

I am in a cool relationship that allows me to find a playmate for my exxxtra sexual pleasure...I want a male stud, preferably black...European...VERY well endowed...good physical condition...cool attitude...ciao! **neveradullmoment**, 29,  **#134459**


SCREENDOOR BANGING!!

We are your average insane average couple. We are looking for to meet another cpl. or woman. Interested in safe adult fun.Your pic gets ours. **ddcpl63**, 47,  **#134534**


SEEKING TOOL FAN

I am a complex creature.... It is with intensity, sensitivity, and passion that I walk in each moment..... Are you? - emotionally intelligent spiritually aware linguistically gifted lover of lingerie..... **anishiva**, 45,  **#134469**


HORNY BI COUPLE

Were a bi couple that would like to find another bi couple that we could become friends with. You don't need to be perfect just be able to have fun. **txfunnsuncouple**, 45,  **#134455**


LOOKING FOR COUPLE

we're a couple wanting to have a threesome or be with a couple on a regular bases. I am Bi and he is straight. Preferable with a happily married couple. **eroticflame1968**, 42,  **#134431**


DARE TO SLUT?

Fun, safe, rough & raunchy- serious about finding a female or couple for discreet encounters. Is there a dirty slut inside you daring to get out? I hold the key. **nevertoofast**, 38,  **#134415**


SEXYKITTYKAT

Happy, secure, married couple seeking a woman or couple (man and woman) for discreet encounters. He enjoys watching, so let's give him a show he won't forget! **bcknrede4u**, 37,  **#134194**


LATIN COUPLE LOOKING

Hi everyone, we are a couple new to this and looking to play with another couple or single bi lady. We are both fit and ready to play. **austincouples**, 30,  **#134167**


COUPLE SEEKS SPICE

hey there, happily married couple seeks a new erotic adventure-add girl. Meet at a local bar.if mutually attracted head to nice hotel. we are in good shape. Have FUN. **austinthree-some**, 39,  **#134000**


A WOMANS TOUCH

I am a very happily married, professional woman that has been with women before. I would love to have the best of both worlds with a mature like minded female. **cravingze**, 36,  **#133997**


SWEET, NAUGHTY, ADVENTUROUS

We are a 35/36 year old couple looking for a woman to play with. I have never been with another woman. My boyfriend wants to watch and possibly join in. **naughtygirl**, 36,  **#133960**


BIG TITS LOOKING...

We are happily committed looking for a couple or female to play with. She is curvy & is VERY sexy with big tits. He has a thick, yummy cock. **bigtitsNTexas**, 44,  **#133954**


SATURDAY NIGHT SEXTACY

We're looking for sexy, smart no-drama couples and single females. Pictures don't lie. We like friendship and fun almost as much as the play. **Bodychemistry**, 27,  **#133895**


LETS SHARE CANDY

Sexy young couple seeks the same/young female. He loves a woman in high heels and would love having you while she watches. We'll share what you share. **ripples**, 24,  **#133613**


COUPLE SEEKING ADVENTURE

Married couple seeking new excitement in the bedroom. Interested in finding a woman or the right couple for some fun. Discretion a must. Safety required. STD Free. Non-smokers preferred. **sassyncute**, 38,  **#133462**


MINOR SEX GODS

... seek bi-demi-goddess for amusing sexy NSA adventures. He's dead sexy, an artist, and endowed; she's, quirky, bi, and jolie laide. We're brainy and bore-a-phobic. Sense of humor a must. **ixchel**, 37,  **#133238**


READY FOR MORE

20 year old pair (boy/girl) looking a woman to join us in the bedroom. Fans of toys and roleplay. Interested? Send us a message. **Likethelightn**on, 20,  **#133209**


SPARKLE

We're looking for people to have crazy fun with! We would like to meet women and couple's willing to share kinky fantasies. Come be naughty with us! **sparklepussy**, 32,  **#132740**


HORNY BISEXUAL COUPLE

Interested in lover(s) who are experienced dominant bisexuals. He's a bi-newbie bottom with a few experiences. She's bi-curious with only one experience. Safe sex. Same room, together. NSA. **austxbicouple**, 40,  **#132661**


DOMS SEEK PLAYMATES

We are a Dom couple who are looking for a sub female or a sub couple. We are bi switch and prefer to Dom. **Atdomx2**, 35,  **#132366**


TONGUE PLAY

I am looking for a woman to help me relax. I prefer hispanic or white woman, average size and who are girly. **lovelyt**, 26,  **#133370**


CUTIEKAILS FWB

Married couple looking for a third. No pressure, get to know eachother first and see where it leads.Looking for a thick lady between ages 21-38. Please no couples, men, or psychos! **kailsrocks**, 28,  **#133277**


FEM FEM FEM

I am a bisexual lipstick who is seeking casual female relationships to explore both on my own, and with my man. **welovefunatx**, 31,  **#133020**


FEMALE FOR ME

Married Hispanic BiFemale, 34 looking for BiFemale for fun encounters. Let's get together for drinks and see what happens? **femaleforme**, 35,  **#131835**

RAVISH ME

Without the touch we cannot survive. I will no longer deny the sexual or erotic essence which is inherent among all human beings. I am open and believe passion pervades. **IS**, 45,  **#134492**

WILL TRY ANYTHING

I would like to try different things I haven't done before few limitations. I like to give and receive pleasure from different kinds of people. **newnopen**, 38,  **#134152**


NYMPHO

young intelligent sexpot looking to broaden my horizons. Looking for experienced couple to do what they want with me. **21stcentury-sex**, 21, **#133753**


SWEETBABY PHATPHAT

Sexy, juicy, young and clean seeking a mature discreet playmate(s) for daddy/daughter, oral, wet/dry encounters, role playing etc...I just get freaky from time to time and want my desires fulfilled. **PrettiThicknBrownGurl**, 29, **#133189**


PLAYMATE(S) FOR ASIANBEAUTY

AsianBeauty seeks Erotic Play with Woman or Man;couples considered. I'm very open-minded,feel free to suggest your sexual fantasies. Only inquire if you're STD-Free. **Asian-Orchid**, 25,  **#131487**


YOUNGNTIGHT

looking for a couple to have some fun with...im young sexy and up for just about anything so if u think u can handle me then let me know....ava 18. **pimp**, 20,  **#129789**


ROMPIN STOMPIN ROMANCE

Hey beautiful women I am a well hung horney guy looking for exciting discreet encounters. **passion4u**, 48,  **#120998**


NW BI MALE

Experienced in oral but hoping for more. Bi guy with hot girl. One or both. Let me know what you want. Want normal and hopefully regular. **Mark1225**, 39,  **#134044**


SUBMISSIVE SEEKING TOP

I am looking for dominant top, eager and willing to dominate me. He might have to put up with scheduling problems. I am in relationship. Day-time encounters might be necessary. **volcano**, 50,  **#127424**


BOTTOM 4 TOP

Hispanic Bottom,45 years old...looking for discreet encounter with a Top guy. I am discreet open to new things, ages between 23 and 50 years old, preference black or mixed. **antonio**, 3638, 46,  **#118402**


READY TO PLEASE

Hi just looking for some hot sex with singles or couples. Very Laid back and love to please. Have a nice package and know how to use it. **batman**, 37,  **#134523**


BI-SEXUAL JOCK

Looking for a very well endowed guy for one on one with me or with my girlfriend at the same time. Must be young, good looking, in shape and HUGE! **GymRat80**, 30,  **#134464**


YOUNG FULL OF

email me!!!!!! test you waters and try to tempt me!!!! ;P >. **Ricjamz**, 21,  **#134424**


CREATIVE AND ADVENTUROUS

I believe in adventure, creativity, spontaneity and respect! I'm looking for both fun and recreational encounters. I can also provide personal film services, since its my trade. **adventurcalls**, 25,  **#134259**


TEACH ME

I am very curious and would like to meet with another one or two people who are also curious or wanting to teach. **newexperiences**, 30,  **#134162**

CURIOUS ABOUT BLACK?

I am a attractive well endowed black guy looking for sum fun with ladies, couples, and groups! Serious Only. Guys watch your lady with a black stud! Straight! **ATXBik**, 37,  **#134144**

PLEASE OWN ME!

TV/CD,want to be a female siss-vimaid. I NEED domination and discipline. Strictly bottom. I love pretty clothes and wearing make-up and wigs. Please get in touch and let's talk. **SissyAnna**, 50,  **#134307**

The Luv Doc

Not all silence is awkward. Some silence is golden. Some silence is blissful. Some silence is deadly – especially the silence that happens in the Car2Go after a gluttonous, hog-trough-feeding binge at Mr. Natural. Raise the little white flag and roll down the window. Some people are silent – sometimes, we are told, a majority of them. Others are singularly silent, often for reasons unknown to anyone else. Some people just like to keep people guessing. Confucius once said, “It is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt.” It’s a good bet that some wiseass at the back of the room followed that platitude with: “Hey Confucius! Shut the fuck up!” Ironically, the Confucian silence quote is also attributed to Abraham Lincoln, who could have used a little less silence at Ford’s Theatre. If only someone would have shouted: “Duck Abe! He’s got a gun!” It probably seemed like a foolish thing to shout at the time, what with the play going on and all. Some silent people are thoughtful and intelligent; others are just plain stupid. It’s sometimes hard to tell them apart. Some silent people are scary, which is an excellent argument for not encouraging silence. With silent types, you really never know what’s bouncing around up there. It might be the cure for cancer or an elegantly proven grand unified field theory, but it might be a screenplay for *The Human Centipede*. The scary truth is that there are some things in life you may not want to know but probably should before it’s too late. Terrorists aren’t particularly chatty – neither are Mafia hit men. Why would they be? Dead people don’t talk. If they did, the first thing they would probably say is, “I wish someone would have said something.” After all, isn’t the hallmark of evolutionary advancement the ability to communicate? Isn’t that what separates us from the rest of the animal kingdom? Who knows? Oysters might be some wicked-smart motherfuckers, but until they learn to use their words or, to set the bar slightly lower, develop a brain stem, their lot in life is to be served on the halfshell. Being able to build your own home and make your own jewelry isn’t proof of intelligence – no matter what Martha Stewart would have you believe. Where does that leave the starfish? Let it speak for itself. The important thing is that everyone should speak up so we know who the stupid, crazy, and scary people are. That, in essence, is the genius of the First Amendment: Calling out the crazies so we can keep an eye on those bastards. Censorship only drives the nut jobs underground – where they’re more dangerous. So the next time you hear something spoken that is completely, abominably outrageous, make sure to send up a hearty hurrah! Help keep all the crazies in the open so they don’t sneak up and stab us in the back. Support free speech in all its glorious and disturbing forms. Speaking of, you can get a bit of both at FronteraFest, Austin’s own fringe theatre festival. The Short Fringe runs through Feb. 12 at Hyde Park Theatre, and the Long Fringe runs through Jan. 30 at the Salvage Vanguard Theater and the Blue Theatre. This Thursday you can catch a full night of Short Fringe performances at the Hyde Park Theatre. Check out *Elevator Action*, a comedic journey on an improvised elevator; *The Priceless Slave*, the true story of an antebellum slave architect; *Dirty, Nerdy and Unemployed*, poetry by Jacob Dodson; *Route 307*, an autobiographical sketch about the life of a mailman; and a sketch comedy performance called *4 Hole Punch*. Rest assured, if there is silence on this night, it will probably be awkward.

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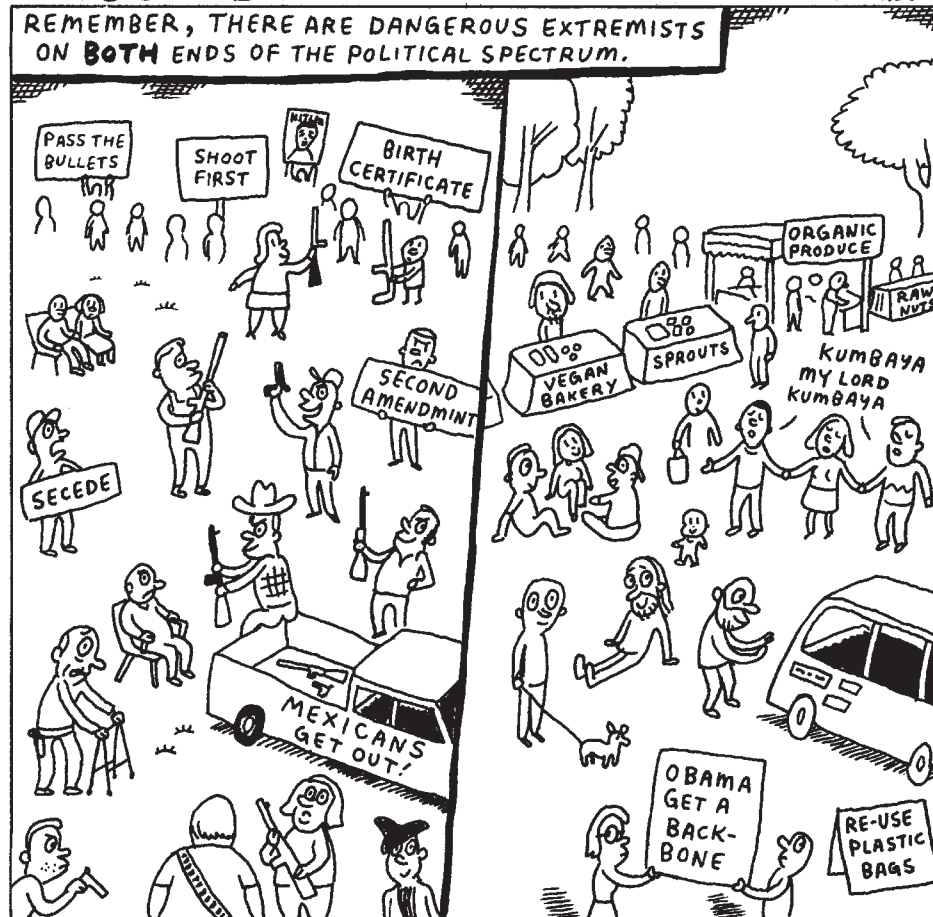
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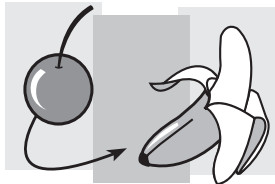
Together, Carlos Slim Helú, Bill Gates, Warren Buffett, and Mukesh Ambani (the world's four richest citizens) control more wealth than the world's poorest 57 countries.

According to Dr. Charles Gerba, a microbiologist at the University of Arizona, most people's bathrooms are cleaner than their kitchens.

House Bill 81 from the 82nd Texas Legislature (2011) and House Bill 81 from the 81st Texas Legislature (2009) are the same bill filed by the same legislator. The proposed law has to do with using public funds to print some public documents in a language other than English.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

lovers lane



DEADHEAD CONNECTION~

Having fun is most important. I love all types of music. I feel most alive when lim dancing at a concert with my friends and feeling all that beautiful energy. **Mystery78666**, 43, **#134508**

EX-CON SEEKING SOULMATE

Okay, so I wasn't in prison. That was just a cheap bid for your attention. I seek a smart, funny, kind man who will be appreciative of my sensual self. **gildedlily**, 52, **#134485**

BOOKS, BEER, BREATHLESS

I like old books and music and movies and new ideas. I want someone who would be up for beer and football (not the Cowboys) or dinner and a documentary. **Eglantine_and_Zephyranth**, 25, **#134472**

ACTIVE, LOVE-ABLE REDHEAD

I love music, gardening, cooking, dancing, traveling, medicine, hiking, camping, people and my friends and family. I'm constantly looking for laughs, adventure and someone to share it with. **heartofgold7**, 26, **#134378**

NERDY METALHEAD

I'm a nerd. I love comic books, sci-fi, and heavy metal. I also love the outdoors, photography, and downtown Austin. Really? This isn't even 20 words? **NotThatDoctor**, 22, **#134436**

SPONTANEOUS QUIRKY HYBRID

Hesitant to embrace the tech world of dating, but forced to admit I'm too spacey to realize when I'm being hit on. Coax me out from behind the curtain? **TigerLily**, 22, **#134404**

BEAUTIFUL, CURVY, TATTOOED

Beautiful, curvy, and tattooed with an awesome personality! I love to laugh and have fun! I loved being single, but ready for something different. **hb1985**, 25, **#134397**

PEACE, LOVE, UNDERSTANDING

Looking for a kind and gentle man to respect me and cherish me. I am a strong and independent woman with a loving heart. **EarthMom4Peace**, 57, **#134391**

VINTAGE ROMANCE

I am a student and I am looking for a smart man that can be in a long term relationship. Very interested in music, classic movies, and conspiracies theories. **vintage60**, 20, **#129658**

SINGLE

It's so hard to describe myself as I am sure it's for most people. I guess the best way to put it's that I am genuine person with a huge heart..... **mybarbara01**, 33, **#134314**

FUTURISTIC CHICK

I enjoy listening to bands, going out for coffee, or watching movies. I'm looking for an honest, hardworking guy that has been in the Austin area for a while. **geminigirl82**, 28, **#119250**

LOVE+WAR=ME

Trying to find a true romance. really quirky and energetic. I talk in circles

but make perfect sense. I want to be myself around someone thats original and cheesy. **classylikeboxwine**, 23, **#134238**

GOOFY CUTE GIRL

Looking to meet new people and maybe even that special someone.i like to go to concerts,movies, swimming,kayaking,hiking,shopping,dancing, dining out,traveling,cuddling on the couch,laugh and goof around with good people. **MariaFria**, 24, **#134227**

free!

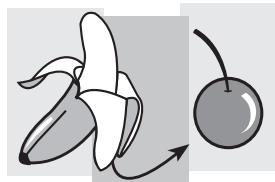
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ACITVE AND OUT-OF-CONTROL

Looking for someone that is as passionate for life as I am! Must enjoy outdoors and love dogs! Motivated and Inspired feel free to contact me! **mkissd9m**, 27, **#134221**

ROBOT... BEEP!

I love shows, being successful, and biking. In a partner I fancy eyes, beards, intelligence, and opinions.I'm not into consumerism or big corporations. I like dominance, I seek my opposite. **Euphoria**, 21, **#134192**



READY, SET, FLY

I love my job, dog, music, learning, and self. Enough said!! **alwaysstay-massaged**, 35, **#134547**

MADE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

I crashed Michael Jackson's public funeral tribute memorial. I was on abc nbc cbs fox top news stories. Looking for rare exotic out the norm of regular females beauty. **naglenagle**, 24, **#134544**

GEEKY IN AUSTIN

I have been doing this thing lately where I try new things. It started with Dance Lessons and making bread as well as flying. Accepting applications for partner in Crime! **morganjaster**, 26, **#134538**

Flavor of the Week

PINA COLADAS ARE...OKAY

I don't dig the bar scene anymore, which can be difficult to meet someone in a college town. Still, there are surprises everywhere, and maybe you are one of them. **beernsushiplease**, 27, **#134537**

ADVENTUROUS SEEKS SAME

"I will always love the false image I had of you." If that made you laugh then keep reading. If you know we are all a little nuts there's hope. **Scorpio78731**, 56, **#119585**

SUPER NERDY GUY

I watch tons of movies and TV. SciFi always being a favorite. I've always preferred to hide in my cave... join me, won't you? I've got cookies (which I baked)! **Lartek**, 20, **#134536**

BOOTS, NO HORSE...

I hate being dirty but love playing rugby.I wish I was a cowboy but have never ridden a horse. My body is a temple but I welcome all sinners. **skinnyboy**, 28, **#134529**

OUTSPOKEN, QUARKEY, FUN-LOVING

i am a romantic at heart. I joke and have fun, at my expense as well as others, anything and everything goes. I like to have fun, plain and simple. **Corny4fun**, 32, **#134518**

NONCHALANT, SELF-ACTUALIZED,FORTUITOUS

Creative, musical, nerdy, crafty, laid-back SWM, 28, 6ft1, bearded. Looking for kickass outdoorsy type with style. Disc golf, hiking, camping or chilling at a movie or good show. **actionjack**, 28, **#120685**

WANTED: BOWLING PARTNER

Admitted sensualist, dashing, worldly and unabashedly hedonistic, seeks vivacious, intelligent female for bowling, dinner, travel, tennis and good times. **Padrino**, 49, **#134486**

CURIOUS, FUNNY, PASSIONATE

I am a person who has been described as complicated, but I disagree. I am looking to start a new chapter in my life and wanting someone to share with. **waterlover**, 57, **#134484**

HANDSOME TENNIS PLAYER

I'm a successful businessman that wants to find an attractive woman to share good times with. I play tennis and golf and live at my tennis club. Contact me. **TALLGUY**, 56, **#128212**

HEY, WHATS UP?

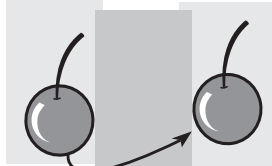
I live to enjoy life & take my relaxation seriously. I wanna keep it drama free and just meet some chill ass chicas into the same. **3rd_wheel**, 27, **#134480**

A SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN

I'm looking for the right woman to be best friends with, laugh with, hold hands with, cuddle with, share good times and hard times with, and to share love with. **CLA**, 59, **#134473**

DOWN TO EARTH

I play hard and love harder. Im loud and layed back, i love girls that are funny and ready to do what ever comes to mind. **countryboy20**, 19, **#134457**



INTELLIGENT, TATTOOED, ROWDY

I love to have fun, I have a big heart, I'm happy in my life and would love someone to share that happiness with. **knuckle_head**, 29, **#134428**

SHY, EASY GOING

pretty quiet at first but once the engines start im pretty easy going. looking for some convo and maybe more. want to start out slow. **jstailshy**, 28, **#134345**

BOHEMIAN PARADISE

I have a big heart and dedicate a lot of my time helping others. I love learning and celebrating diverse cultures.I try to live a sustainable lifestyle. **silly-woman**, 18, **#134320**

LAUGH AT LIFE

a hedonist, free spirit, with a dont mess with me attitude and a heart bigger than the moon :). **katkins**, 23, **#134157**

SHY, CREATIVE, OUT-GOING

I'm shy when i first meet someone but i warm up pretty fast, I'm openminded and always ready to try new things. **singingpoema**, 19, **#134146**

HEY LADIES!

I am new to the area and looking for a woman to have a relationship with...either by friends w/benefits or just plain friendship. **BiQt83**, 27, **#134115**



MAKE AN OFFER

Available: One late model white male, low mileage, well-maintained, single-owner, runs smooth, tune-ups performed regularly, firm but comfortable seating with tons of features. Some minor scratches/flaws – hardly noticeable. **tkaustin**, 49, **#119526**



HERE I AM

I am an easy going guy who doesn't take too many things too seriously. Former military, former firefighter, former EMT, part time beach bum. Looking for new friends. **rhunter911**, 46, **#132098**

LAIDBACK SMALL-TOWN GUY

I'm from a small town about thirty minutes down east of Austin. I'm know the area but there's still a lot of Austin I'd like to explore with someone new. **jthomas**, 24, **#134451**

TWO LEFT FEET

Help! Two left feet looking to learn how to dance with a patient compassionate instructor for fitness and fun! Very high energy, focused and passionate. **waterlootexas**, 41, **#134367**



LIFE IS TOO precious to hold trespasses on those you love. I realize, you can't control rude people. When we see each other again,I hope for friendship. Everytime you have ever seen me, I was there only for you. Everytime.

a shot in the dark

DON'T SAY PANTIES

Gorgeous brown haired girl with the Doberman eating dinner. The older man with you wouldn't let you say the "B" or "P" word during dinner. Hope to see you soon... **When: Sunday, January 9. Where: Dinner with the Rents. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905153**

ONCE OVER

You wore a salmon-shirt, puffed a cigarette at a coffee-house patio. You leaned to the bushy-man in black Crocs, "Nobody ever puts me in 'Shot-in-the-Dark,'" and shared a hearty laugh. **When: Saturday, January 8. Where: Once Over Coffee Bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905152**

AIRPORT CUTIE

I saw you at the Newark airport heading back to Austin. We laughed at the unruly crowd and broken terminal microphone. I enjoyed our brief conversation. Let's chat more! **When: Saturday, January 1. Where: Airport. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905151**

RANDALLS BRAKER/183 SHOPPINGBASKET

Monday Dec 20 at Randalls @ Braker and 183 about 10:00pm you asked me if I was using the mini shopping cart I was pushing. are you single? **When: Monday, December 20, 2010. Where: Randalls. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905150**

HIGHLAND LANES

On the night of Jan 1st, you were the cute and very nice girl at Dart Bowl who returned my jacket to my friend. I wanted to thank you personally. **When: Saturday, January 1. Where: Highland Lanes. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905149**

DREAMY CLIVE NYE

Ran in 1:30ish. You stopped me, asked if I could feel "it" too, I asked "are you him" Afraid you have wrong number. If you're him, this will find you... **When: Sunday, January 2. Where: Clive Bar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905148**

WHEATSVILLE BEAUTY,

Dark haired beauty,you single shopping at wheatsville,dec27,white honda SUV. Me silver hair,silver tundra parked next to you wondering why I let you go. **When: Monday, December 27, 2010. Where: wheatville coop. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905147**

WANTED UR NUMBER

Saxon pub during Guy Forsyth, you're chef Alan. I am the Archeologist named Trisha with the black shirt, I would love to go out with you. **When: Friday, December 31, 2010. Where: Saxon Pub. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905146**

FIREMAN HEB 41ST

You were the super cute fireman at HEB shopping with 3 other fireman. I was the girl with short blonde hair helping my blind friend shop. **When: Saturday, January 1. Where: HEB 41st and Red River. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905145**

3AM 486 BUS

you: purple heart earrings, dark brown jacket. I told you you were beautiful then got off the bus. another chance at a first conversation? coffee? **When: Friday, December 31, 2010. Where: on the bus. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905144**

RENEE STACY PARK

Renee, you told me you were too cheap too heat your pool. Lets swim again soon,you motivated me too. I,m the stylist, your the designer.Pretty day. Amy **When: Friday, December 31, 2010. Where: Stacy park pool. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905143**

CEDARSTREET BREATHTAKING

You and your friend stood on the chairs next to me and my friend. you big beautiful smile gorgeous eyes black shirt with red heart. Maybe another show, some drinks??? **When: Wednesday, December 29, 2010. Where: Cedarstreet courtyard. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905142**

ZEN GIRL 12/28

You: beautiful girl wearing blue coat in religion section of Half-Price Books on Lamar. Me: dude in lounge chair trying (and failing) to decipher the I Ching. Coffee? **When: Tuesday, December 28, 2010. Where: Half Price Books @ Lamar and 2222. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905141**

BOW AND ARROW

Tamera. You got a bow and arrow for Christmas. I wanted to talk longer but didn't get the chance. Come back to the store and say hi. Maybe drinks sometime? **When: Wednesday, December 29, 2010. Where: Oak Hill. You: Woman. Me: Man. #905140**

BOULDIN COFFEE MAN

Bright eyes, sweet smile. Caught my attention 12/29. Shoulder-length dark hair, leather jacket (both of us). You sat at the counter. I think we connected somehow. See you there again? **When: Wednesday, December 29, 2010. Where: Bouldin Creek Coffeehouse. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905139**

POMEGRANATE KISSES

I forgot your name multiple times within 10 minutes of meeting. You had my attention from the moment we met. Wish i could have stayed all night. **When: Sunday, December 19, 2010. Where: 'hog'. You: Man. Me: Woman. #905137**

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research study

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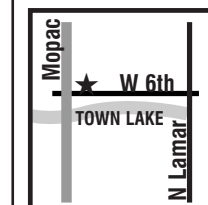
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by Rob Brezsnys for Jan. 14-20

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "Forgiveness means giving up all hope for a better past," said comedian Lily Tomlin. I recommend that you make this a keynote during the next six months. According to my understanding of the astrological omens, you will have the best opportunity you've had in a long time to put some of your unsettling memories to sleep for good. This is your big chance to graduate from old anxieties that can never be resolved. You're finally ready to declare your independence from messy burdens and maddening riddles that have haunted you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you want to be healed, whether from a physical malady or a psychic wound, there's one prerequisite you have to meet: You have to be willing to learn a lesson that your suffering has invited you to study. I would go so far as to say that no one, no matter how skilled a healer, can help cure you until you have taken that first step. So what teaching is it that you would need to explore in order to transform your distress into wisdom?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Are you ready to get the fun surprise you were promised in your dreams? Are you fully prepared to collect the elegant prize you were guaranteed before you were born? I don't think you are - mostly because you're not thoroughly convinced that you deserve these wonders. From what I can tell, your self-doubts are still more substantial than your self-worth. And as long as that holds true, you will continue to hold your just rewards at bay. So let's make it your project in the next three weeks to elevate your levels of self-worth. It doesn't mean you'll have to completely shed your self-doubts, so don't worry about trying to pull off that impossible project. All you need to do is adjust your self-worth to self-doubt ratio so it's at least 51% to 49%.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): What empire are you building, Aries? What master plan are you in the midst of carrying out? As you gaze out upon your realm, are you content with the way it's evolving? Judging from the current astrological omens, I'd say it's an excellent time to ponder questions like those. And if your inventory reveals that you're missing some pieces of the big picture's puzzle, I suggest you set out on a quest to locate them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In a famous psychology experiment, test subjects watched a video of six people passing basketballs to each other. Their assignment was to count how many passes were thrown and caught by the three people wearing white shirts, while ignoring passes between the three wearing black shirts. But there was a trick embedded in the exercise. Midway through the video, a person wearing a gorilla suit ambled into the scene, thumped his chest, and quickly departed. Half of the test subjects did not notice this intrusion. They were too focused on the task of counting the passes made by the players in white. (Watch it here: www.tinyurl.com/trickgorilla.) In the coming week, Taurus, I expect that you will experience at least one similar trick. Look for the unexpected.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Astrologer Hunter Reynolds says that when you are at your best, you Geminis specialize in "enlightened impatience." You don't get trapped expressing polite deference in situations that drain your energy. You don't tolerate boring experiences just because they're supposed to be good for you. You'd rather "err on the side of learning-through-too-much-movement" than get bogged down in principled sluggishness. But while that's how you are when you're at your peak, you can also be susceptible to the dark side of this talent. Sometimes you abort a potential breakthrough by prematurely fleeing a useful but difficult scene. I suspect you may be prone to that kind of behavior right now. My advice: Be skeptical of your escape reflex.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In her poem "Heathen," Lesley Wheeler describes a young boy who puts his ear up against his mother's ear "so that the god in your head can talk / to the god in mine." The coming weeks would be an excellent time for you to try something similar with people you care for. It's a ripe moment to raise the stakes in your intimate life, to get closer than you've dared to get before, to retire the familiar stories you and your allies are in the habit of exchanging so that you can tune in to the deeper hum of one another's wilder truths.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There's a guy on the Internet - he calls himself Tian - whose mission is to correct Westerners who misunderstand and misuse Chinese characters. Many of the people who write to him for advice are Americans who have come to suspect that the Chinese characters they got tattooed on their flesh don't really mean what they were led to believe (www.bit.ly/WrongTat). For example, Tian informed one person that a tattoo whose character supposedly says "to learn as much as possible" actually means "empty, hollow, bare, deserted." I offer this up as a cautionary tale, Leo. In the coming days, make sure you're not under a misapprehension about what you're taking on and taking in. Choose only the very best imprints - and verify that they are what you think they are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I regard 2011 as an excellent time for you to cultivate your unique talents, some of which may still be latent or undiscovered. With that in mind, consider these thoughts. Ernest Hemingway said a person had to have "the guts of a burglar" to develop his or her talent. Neurologist and author Alice W. Flaherty believes that the drive to use one's talent is even more important than the amount of raw talent one has. And here's novelist Erica Jong: "Everyone has talent. What is rare is the courage to follow that talent to the dark place where it leads." PS: If you do venture into those dark places, you'll eventually uncover 10 suns' worth of illumination.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Back in 1962, an American company named Corning created a product that was so revolutionary, no one could figure out how to exploit it in practical ways. It was "Gorilla glass," a glass that's so strong it's almost impossible to break or even scratch. Only recently has it found a commercial application, first in cell phones and other mobile devices and next in a new generation of ultra-thin TV screens. I foresee a comparable development in your immediate future, Libra: some ahead-of-its-time breakthrough you made a while ago that can finally be used to improve your life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): When I arrived at my acupuncturist's waiting room, there were just two magazines on the table next to my chair: the celebrity rag *People Style Weekly* and the spiritually oriented *Shambhala Sun*. The first offered articles on "hot new handbags and shoes under \$99" and "easy ways to get gorgeous hair, skin, and nails." The second provided a "guide to mindful living," with advice about how to get centered, focused, and relaxed. I thought that was metaphorically similar to the choice you will face in the coming week, Scorpio. It's up to you: Which way do you want to go?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I can almost categorically guarantee that in 2011 you will have no encounters with fire demons, wart-ridden vampires, two-headed dogs, moaning ghosts, wayward werewolves, or extraterrestrial robots. Nope. You can pretty much go ahead and make plans based on the assumption that you won't have to account for intrusions like that. But I can also assure you that the lack of crazy encounters with unhinged monsters does not mean your life will suffer from blahs or boredom. On the contrary: I think this could be one of your most interesting years in a decade. To prepare yourself, make sure you don't unconsciously equate adventure with chaos; imagine what it would be like to experience mystery and intrigue that uplift you.

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events

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general

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ALIAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION
AUSTIN CHRONICLE
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: SALVADOR HERNANDEZ Defendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this alias citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this alias citation, the same being MONDAY, 02/07/11, a default judgment may be taken against you.
CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-10-002102, filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #2
ZARATE V HERNANDEZ ET AL Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #2 (Travis County Courthouse, corner of Tenth Street and Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas) on August 26, 2010.

STYLED: ZARATE V HERNANDEZ ET AL
NATURE OF SUIT: PERSONAL INJURY MOTOR VEHICLE DAMAGES
Given under my hand and seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on September 20, 2010.
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ C. JONES
Plaintiff Attorney:
LARRY LADEN
4407 BEE CAVES ROAD #301
AUSTIN, TX 78746

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit with a Beverage Cartage Permit by Frappe Inc. d/b/a Opa's Coffee & Wine Bar, lo-

cated at 2050 S. Lamar Blvd, Austin, Travis County, TX 78704. Officer of said limited liability company is Spiridon E. Karamalegos, President, Secretary and Director.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-10-003778 TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LOUIS MEDINA Defendant(s), in the herein after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 24th Of January, 2011, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 53RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on OCTOBER 25, 2010, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number D-1-GN-10-003778, in which JOSE MORENO Plaintiff(s), and UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LOUIS MEDINA Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

SUIT TO REMOVE CLOUD ON THE TITLE OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 905 E. 13TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE. AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 10, 2010.
REQUESTED BY:
PAT HAMMONDS
4311 S 1ST
AUSTIN, TX 78745
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 448-7774
FAX: (512) 443-8307
/s/ AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH ALEXANDRE LEGAULT Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-002058 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
DIANA CRAFT The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on **December 21 2010**, an Application to Determine Heirship & for Creation of Independent Administration without bond in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said **JOSEPH ALEXANDRE LEGAULT**. Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas, as.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 30, 2010.
Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy /s/ MONICA LIM-ON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-10-003778 TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LOUIS MEDINA Defendant(s), in the herein after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 419TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the PETITION TO ADJUDICATE PARENTAGE OF SHAWN SMITH Petitioner(s), filed in said court on NOVEMBER 15, 2010, against SHANNA CASTELAN Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF STACEY SMITH, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request PATERNITY.
The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:
STACEY SMITH
MAY 31, 2008
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 20, 2010.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ JAMES FERRELL, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SHAWN SMITH
6505 TARA DR
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RICHARD EDWARD HARRINGTON, Deceased, No. C-1-PB-11-000016 in Probate Court Number One of Travis

County, Texas.
RICHARD EDWARD HARRINGTON, JR. The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on January 05, 2011, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said RICHARD EDWARD HARRINGTON, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas, as.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 30, 2010.
Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy /s/ MONICA LIM-ON

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-10-006289 TO: SHANNA CASTELAN and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s). GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 419TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the PETITION TO ADJUDICATE PARENTAGE OF SHAWN SMITH Petitioner(s), filed in said court on NOVEMBER 15, 2010, against SHANNA CASTELAN Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF STACEY SMITH, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request PATERNITY.
The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:
STACEY SMITH
MAY 31, 2008
GEORGETOWN, TEXAS
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 20, 2010.
AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By /s/ JAMES FERRELL, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
SHAWN SMITH
6505 TARA DR
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78744

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RICHARD EDWARD HARRINGTON, Deceased, No. C-1-PB-11-000016 in Probate Court Number One of Travis

County, Texas.
RICHARD EDWARD HARRINGTON, JR. The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on January 05, 2011, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said RICHARD EDWARD HARRINGTON, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.
Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas, as.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.
If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on January 05, 2011.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325
Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ MONICA LIM-ON

CONTRACTOR'S NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION
IFB NO. B110095-JW
Notice is given that sealed bids for the **LAVA LANE SUBSTANDARD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (IFB No. B110095-JW)**, a Community Development Block Grant funded project (available through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD")), which will consist of approximately 1,300 linear feet of new asphalt pavement, along with a detention pond and other drainage improvements on Lava Lane in Southeast Travis County, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 3:00 P.M. Central Standard Time, Wednesday, January 26, 2011**, then publicly opened and read aloud.
Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of bids.
Bidders may print the plans and specifications free of charge from www.bidsync.com or obtain hard copies from the **TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE**. A refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County" is required for each set of bid documents that is obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office. **The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening.** Copies of plans and specifications may be viewed free of charge in the Travis County Purchasing Office and at various Austin-area Plan Rooms indicated in the list below.
A bid security in the amount of 5% of the total bid amount is required. Payments for completed work will be made in progressive payments with the County retaining 5% of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of 100% of the contract amount if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of 100% of the contract amount if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders must use

unit pricing, except as provided for in the Specifications.
Historically Underutilized Businesses, including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors must comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations and all federal, state, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.
The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by the County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for 90 calendar days after the date on which they are opened.
CYD GRIMES
TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT

D-1-GV-09-000615
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE
REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201ST District Court of Travis County, on the 28th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000615, wherein:
City of Austin, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District, Manor Independent School District, Austin Community College (as to billing number 106156)
Austin Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Healthcare District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 4 and Austin Community College (as to billing number 578041) are plaintiffs,
and Carter Family Partnership and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 106156 = \$65,688.94 and Tract Two: Billing Number 578041 = \$25,055.66** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201ST District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 9, 2009.
I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO.: 106156
23.26 Acres out of the John Applegate Survey 38, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 11359, Page 160, SAVE AND EXCEPT that 1.047 acre tract conveyed to the State of Texas in Document Number 2001106198 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas
Parcel No.: 02-2823-0101-0000
Location: U.S. Highway 290
TRACT TWO: BILLING O.: 578041
A tract of land out of the H. T. Davis Survey 30, Shown as a \$8,534 acre tract on the TCAD map, Travis County, Texas, and being that property as described in Volume 11359, Page 169 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas
Parcel No.: 02-2730-0901-0000
Location: Old Manor Road
THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 106156 = \$65,688.94 and Tract Two: Billing Number 578041 = \$25,055.66** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000698

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 29th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000698, wherein TRAVIS COUNTY, TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT NO. 1, CITY OF JONESTOWN, AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND LEANDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (AS TO BILLING NUMBER 713541)

TRAVIS COUNTY, TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT, TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1, AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND LEANDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (AS TO BILLING NUMBER 731916, 814399)

are plaintiffs, and John D. Schleis (as to all tracts) and Tana A. Main aka Tana Ann Marquardt (as to billing no. 814399) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

Tract One: Billing Number 713541 = \$6,452.44

Tract Two (Billing Number 731916) together with Tract Three (Billing Number 814399) = \$22,451.76

Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 19, 2009.

I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Tract One

Parcel No.:01-8660-0103-0000

Legal Description:

6.15 acres, being a portion out of Lot 6, Panoramic Hills, Plat No. 38/50 as desc. in Vol. 12982, Page 2035 and a portion out of the Humble and Chapman Sur. 54 as desc. in Vol. 12982, Pg. 2044 and being Tract 1 as desc. in Doc. No. 2008028890 of the deed records of Travis County Texas

Billing No.:713541

Location:FM RD 1431

Tract Two

Parcel No.:01-8860-0403-0000

Legal Description:

8.768 acres, being a portion out of Lots 6 and 7, Panoramic Hills, Plat No. 38/50, desc. as Tract 2 in Vol. 12774, Page 1220 and as Doc. No. 2008028890 of the deed records of Travis County Texas

Billing No.:731916

Location:Deer Canyon

Tract Three

Parcel No.:01-8860-0403-0001

Legal Description:

N W 4.568 ACR OF LOT 6 * & S E 4.20

0 ACR OF LOT 7 PANORAMIC HILLS TOT

AL 8.768 ACR IMP ONLY

Billing No.:814399

Location:Deer Canyon

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 713541 = \$6,452.44**

Tract Two (Billing Number 731916) together with Tract Three (Billing Number 814399) = \$22,451.76

Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000889

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 29th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000889, wherein Austin Community College, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Service District No. 14, Travis County Healthcare District, and Leander Independent School District are plaintiffs, and Stephen Michael Fletcher, 8140 Mopac, Ltd. d/b/a Westpark Office Complex. (In Rem Only) and Donna J. Fletcher (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 514837 = \$14,463.81 and Tract Two: Billing Number 543493 = \$3,697.81** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 18, 2010.

I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO.: 514837

A portion of Lot 10, Block B, Travista, Plat No. 91/84, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described as SAVE AND EXCEPT that 2.75 acre tract conveyed in Volume 12146, Page 851 as described in Volume 12235, Page 1756 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

Parcel No.: 01-8357-0318-0000

Location: 10202 Lime Creek Road

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO.: 543493

1.27 acres out of Lot 19, Red Wagon Ranchettes, Section 2, Plat No. 13/54,

Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 12499, Page 25 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

Parcel No.: 01-8357-0610-0000

Location: Lime Creek Road

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 514837 = \$14,463.81 and Tract Two: Billing Number 543493 = \$3,697.81** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-001261

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 28th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-001261, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Bar-K Ranches POA, LLC are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,138.37** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 345th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on August 30, 2010.

I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Billing Number 752536

A tract of land out of the L.W. Simpson Sur. 610 and the H & O B R R Co. Sur. 35, being that tract as described in the attached field notes and being a portion as described in document numbers 2006123293, 2009055227, 2009095419 and 2009189044 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,138.37** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR

A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-001412

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 28th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-001412, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Highland Lakes Valuation Group, LLC, Apache Shores Property Owners, Inc. a/k/a Apache Shores Property Owners Association, Inc. (In Rem Only), Sunset Construction & Excavation (In Rem Only) and David Freeman (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,245.24** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 28, 2010.

I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 33, Block S, Apache Shores, Section No. 5, Plat No. 5, 541 as described in document number 2005225556 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,245.24** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-001424

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 28th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-001424, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 8 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and William L. Buvens, Clara R. Buvens (In Rem Only) and Lone Star Bank, SSB (In Rem Only) are

defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$16,815.63** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 2, 2010.

I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

7.4306 acres out of the G.W. Scott Survey 50, The Seale Morris & Seale Survey 62 and the A. B. & M. Survey 37, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in document number 2007072776 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$16,815.63** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-10-000660

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 29th day of December, 2010 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-10-000660, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Clifton Hill are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$19,586.64** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 30, 2010.

I, on the 4th day of January, 2011, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 1st day of February, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Streets in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 4, Block 5, Green Valley No. 1, Plat No. 5/27 as described in Volume 9309, Page 639 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$19,586.64** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 4th day of January, 2011.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

IN THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE CHANCERY COURT OF SEQUACHUCK COUNTY

IN RE: ALYSSA MARIE LOPEZ a child under the age of 18 years

LESTER THOMAS NARRAMORE, and CHARLOTTE ANN NARRAMORE, Petitioners, vs. ERICA CHRISTINE WARD and YERWIN GUSTAVO LOPEZ, III, Respondents. NO. 2306

NOTICE In this cause, it appearing from the Order of Publication, that the residences of the Respondent, Yerwin Gustavo Lopez, III, the father, cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry. It is hereby ordered that publication be made for four (4) consecutive weeks, as required by law, in the Austin Chronicle, a newspaper published in Austin, Texas, notifying the Respondent, Yerwin Gustavo Lopez, III.

The Respondent, Yerwin Gustavo Lopez, III, to file an answer with this court and a copy to Petitioners' attorney, Jennifer A. Mitchell, whose address is P.O. Box 666, Dunlap, Tennessee 37327, within 30 days from the last date of publication, exclusive of the last date of publication, or a judgment by default may be entered and the cause set for a hearing ex parte as to said Respondent. If there is no answer, a hearing on Petitioner's motion for default judgment shall be heard on March 9, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. (CST). Failure to answer or appear may result in termination of Respondent's parental rights to the child referenced above.

This the 4th day of January, 2011.

/s/ Thomas C. Goins
CLERK & MASTER

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

ROSA MATTA MORENO and J. GUADALUPE MENDEZ, Plaintiffs, v. TRANSPORTES LUCANO and ARSENIO PEREZ MARTINEZ, Defendants. CIVIL ACTION NO. G-00-169 NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given

that pursuant to the Writ of Execution dated the 15th day of November, 2010, signed by the Honorable Kenneth Hoyt, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, has directed the U.S. Department of Justice, Marshals Service under the Writ of Execution to sell at Public Sale, the following described property located at 1208 and 1210 E. Cesar Chavez St., Austin, Travis County, Texas 78702,

and more particularly described as: Lot 5, Block 11, of PECK & McGARY SUBDIVISION OUT OF OUTLET 19, DIVISION "O", a subdivision in Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Block T, Page(s) 273, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas (1208 E. Cesar Chavez St., Austin, Texas 78702) Lot 6, Block 11, of PECK & McGARY SUBDIVISION OUT OF OUTLET 19, DIVISION "O", a subdivision in Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Block T, Page(s) 273, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas (1210 E. Cesar Chavez St., Austin, Texas 78702) Pursuant to this order, the U.S. Marshals Service will on 01

February, 2011 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., on the steps of the Travis County Courthouse, Austin, Texas, offer for sale and sell to the highest bidder the above property together with all improvements thereon, SUBJECT to the following minimum bid prices: A. For Lot 5, the minimum bid shall be \$135,505; B. For Lot 6 the minimum bid shall be \$131,000. The condition of the sale for property are that the purchaser shall be required to deposit with the U.S. Marshal a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the amount of his/her bid by certified check, payable to the United States Marshals Service at 515 Rusk Avenue, Room 10130, Houston, Texas 77002. In the event the purchaser fails to fulfill this requirement, the deposit made by him/her shall be forfeited and applied to the expenses of the sale and the subject property shall be re-offered for sale with the cost of such additional advertising and sale to be deducted from the deposit forfeited by said purchaser. Date this 06 day of January, 2010. United States Marshal Southern District of Texas

NO. C-1-PB-10-001845 GUARDIANSHIP OF DIANA L. ROBERTS, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Published Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of Diana Roberts, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on December 1, 2011 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAM-

ILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Diana Roberts, 1700 Rutherford Lane Austin, Texas 78754.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

SIGNED on the 7th day of January, 2011.

Shannon Holub

State Bar No. 24006149

Attorney for Family Eldercare, Inc.

1700 Rutherford Lane

Austin, TX 78754

Phone: (512) 483-3568

Fax: (512) 380-9813

Attorney for Guardian

NO. C-1-PB-10-001973 IN THE ESTATE OF ORA LEE GOODMAN, DECEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ora Lee Goodman were issued on January 4, 2011, under Docket No. C-1-PB-10-001973, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to GUY HUGH GOODMAN.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for GUY HUGH GOODMAN addressed as follows:

Representative, Estate of Ora Lee Goodman, Deceased

c/o Douglas A. Booth

Law Offices of Douglas A. Booth, P.C.

1301 S. MoPac Expressway,

Suite 420

Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims

AV0209 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE,
REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE
OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE
MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL
LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS
ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED
MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

FEBRUARY 09, 2011 @ 9:30 AM @ SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S. CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745

105061418	1992	CHEV	2DR	940MLS	TX	1G1LW13T0NY267308
105068954	1992	FORD	VN	TKH918	TX	1FMDA11U3NZB21741
105069111	1994	GEO	2DR	P57WTP	TX	2C1MR2468R6801410
105069115		HMDE				TRAL
105069118	1998	BUIC	4DR	743HLY	TX	1G4HP52K6WH456276
105069172	1987	GMC	TK			1GDJ7D18

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

CAN MALT LIQUOR BE USED AS EMERGENCY COOLANT?

Dear Tom and Ray:

Last summer, I was commuting home from work on the highway, and my 1998 Nissan Maxima started to overheat. The temperature outside was 90 degrees-plus. The engine started heaving, so I had to pull off the interstate and sit for a while, waiting for the engine to cool. Incredibly, right next to where I stopped, I found a 40-ounce bottle of Schlitz Malt Liquor, unopened. My inclination was to pour the beer into the radiator; however, my 19-year-old son advised against it, thinking it might damage the cooling system. Seeking a second opinion, I called my 24-year-old son, who also thought I was crazy. I took their advice and waited for a tow truck, but I think it would have been OK to use. What do you think?

— Bob

RAY: I think it would have been OK in a dire emergency, Bob. If you had been stuck in Death Valley, with the sun beating down on you and the coyotes circling, sure. Then you pour it in and hope for the best.

TOM: It's mostly water. It's got a little bit of alcohol in it, which used to be used as antifreeze. The carbonation isn't really a problem, because under pressure in the cooling system, that would flatten out. But the hops and barley and molasses and day-old soup or whatever else they put in there probably won't do your cooling system any good. And it would have to be drained out once you got back to civilization.

RAY: Plus, when the engine's overheating, you can't even remove the radiator cap until it cools down. In your circumstances, that would have taken at least an hour. The hot coolant is under such high pressure that if you were to remove the cap too soon, it would spray all over the place, scald your face, and make you look like my brother.

TOM: And if you're going to have to sit there for an hour anyway, you might as well drink the Schlitz, wait for the tow truck to bring you some real coolant, and save the cost of having to flush out your coolant and replace it the next day.

RAY: And by the way, Bob, I hope you realize how rare it is that "19- and 24-year-old boys," "40 ounces of malt liquor," and "wise decision" end up in the same sentence.

* * *

If you buy a used car, will you just be inheriting the previous owner's problem? Tom and Ray dispel this and other myths about used cars in their pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on



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Distributed by King Features Syndicate

continued

legal notices

against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 14th day of January, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
LAW OFFICES OF DOUGLAS A. BOOTH, P.C.

1301 S. MoPac Expressway,
Suite 420
Austin, Texas 78746

Telephone: (512) 477-6893

Telecopier: (512) 478-4926

By: /s/ DOUGLAS A. BOOTH
Texas Bar No. 00785709

NO. C-1-PB-10-002017

ESTATE OF MARGARET JACKSON SMITH, AKA MARGARET ANN "PEGGY" SMITH, DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Margaret Jackson Smith, also known as Margaret Ann "Peggy" Smith, Deceased, were issued to Donald Lawrence Smith, whose residence and mailing address is 15104 Honeycomb Court, Leander, Texas 78641, on January 6, 2011, by the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-002017, which is still pending, and that the Executors now holds such Letters Testamentary. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the claims to Deanna Eastwood, c/o Michele A. Mobley, DuBois, Bryant & Campbell, L.L.P., 700 Lavaca Street, Suite 1300, Austin, Texas 78701, within the time prescribed by law.

/s/ Michele A. Mobley
DuBois, Bryant & Campbell, L.L.P.

700 Lavaca Street,

Suite 1300

Austin, Texas 78701

Dated: January 7, 2011

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

In accordance with the provisions of State Law, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage location(s) listed below.

And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the below stated location(s) to the highest bidder for cash or otherwise disposed of on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 at 9:00AM starting at the Hwy 290 East #285 location, immediately there after, auction proceeds to the next listed location.

Uncle Bobs Self Storage #285 9717 US Hwy 290 E. Austin, TX 78724

Elizabeth Balusek - Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Appliances, TV/ Stereo Equip

Dawn Michelle Moxley - Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Tools, TV/ Stereo Equip

Daisy Hernandez - Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, TV/Stereo Equip
Uncle Bobs Self Storage #231 8227 N. Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78753

Kimberly Lopez - Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, TV/Stereo Equip
Robert Marshall - Boxes

Kysha Harris - Furn, Boxes, TV/Stereo Equip
LaVera Galloway - Furn

Martell Eason - Furn, Boxes, Sprng gds, Tools, Appliances, Acctng Rcds

Charles H. Clark - Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes

Evangelina Ramirez - Furn, Boxes, TV/Stereo Equip

Uncle Bobs Self Storage #276 2830 S. AW Grimes Blvd. Round Rock, TX 78664

Lawrence E. Williams-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes,Sprng gds,Tools,Applnces,TV/Stereo Equip,Lndscpng equip; Mike Trowebird-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes;

Jennifer McGuiggan-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes,Sprng gds,TV/Stereo Equip;

Joe Moreland-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes,Sprng gds,Tools,Applnces,TV/Stereo Equip,Off Furn,Off Mach/ Equip,Lndscpng equip,Acctng rcds;

Sara Garza-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes,Applnces,TV/ Stereo Equip,Off Furn;

Randy Roy Diaz-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes,Applnces,TV/ Stereo Equip;

April Jenkins-Hsld gds,Boxes;

Carolyn Barrett-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes,Tools,Applnces,Lndscpng equip;

Roman Zapata-Hsld gds,Boxes,Sprng gds,Lndscpng equip;

Joan Walker-Hsld gds; Tasha Couvreur-Furn,Boxes;

Debra Martin-Hsld gds,Furn,TV/Stereo Equip;

Justin Gomez-Hsld gds,Furn,Boxes;

Uncle Bobs Self Storage #197 5547 McNeil Dr. Austin, TX 78729

Amanda Cagle Hsld gds, furn, boxes, tv/stereo equip

Raphael Ruffin III Hsld gds, furn

Carla Berry Furn, boxes

Betty Downs Hsld gds, furn, boxes

Robert Huneuyct Hsld gds, furn, boxes, tv/stereo equip

Michael Covill Hsld gds, furn, boxes, sprng gds, tools, applnces,tv/stereo equip,cnstrctn equip, acctng rcds, sales sampls

Michelle Peglar Hsld gds, furn, boxes, applnces, tv/ stereo equip

Uncle Bob's Self Storage #287 6509 S. 1st St. Austin, TX 78745

Anthony Ybarra-Furn, Boxes

Susanne Crane-Hsld gds, Furn, Sprng gds, Tools, Appliances, TV/Stereo Equip

Joyce E. Davis-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, TV/Stereo Equip

Farrell Jayne-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes

Laura Alva-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes

Kerry Sawyer-Hsld gds, Boxes, TV/Stereo Equip

Jennifer Jones-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Appliances, TV/ Stereo Equip, Off Furn, Off Mach/Equip

Rose H. Jaimes-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Sprng gds, Tools, Applnces

Amy-Jordan Wagoner-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Tools, Appliances, TV/Stereo Equip

Chasta Hicks-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Sprng gds, Appliances, TV/Stereo Equip, Lndscpng Equip

Tasha Tennant-Hsld gds, Furn, Boxes, Tools, Appliances, Off Furn

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation: **SET MAXIMUM**

PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ON SCHMIDT LANE IN PRECINCT ONE AND A TRUCK PROHIBITION ON OLD SAN ANTONIO ROAD IN PRECINCT THREE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposal action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Orangeco, Inc. hereby gives notice that the property

generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 27th of January 2011 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

Thursday January 27th, 2011

9:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 1517 Round Rock Ave. Round Rock, TX 78681

1117 - Harris, Marvin Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

3120 - Svajian, Denise Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

6116 - Miller, John D.Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

7105 - Lockley, Garrett Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

8109 - Mercado, Vida Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

10:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 12318 N. Mopac Expressway Austin, TX 78758

A057 - COATES, Will Boxes / Bags / Totes

B110 - Mathurin, Jeremy Appliances

B197 - Babineaux, Britney Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture;

Toys

C316 - Taylor, Nick Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

D500 - Brooks, Jeremy Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

10:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 9205 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78758

A054 - Myers, Richard Boxes/Bags/Totes

A070 - Austin Families, Inc. Boxes / Bags / Totes

C068 - Robinson, Pearl Boxes / Bags / Totes

D108 - Smith, Russell Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

D119-A - Rodriguez, Nita Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

F011 - Blair, James Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes

11:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 10931 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78759

B026 - Garcia, Eric Appliances; Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes;

Furniture; Tools

B029 - escobedo, eric Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

C041 - Rosales, Carlo Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

D038 - Cassidy, Pamela Books / Files / Cabinets; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

E034 - Arellano, Beverly Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics /Computers

11:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 12915 Research Blvd. Austin, TX 78750

3013 - Winskey, Kelly Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools

3066 - MUNDY, ROBERT Boxes / Bags / Totes

12:00 p.m. Public Storage@ 13675 N. U.S. Hwy. 183 Austin, TX 78750

0317 - Doyen, Joshua Boxes/Bags/Totes

0433 - Petteway, Shannon Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys

1267 - SANCHEZ, JULIAN Boxes/Bags/totes

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

U-STORE-IT hereby gives notice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on **February 3, 2011** beginning at

9:30 A.M. at the U-STORE-IT located at 610 E. Stassney Lane Austin, Texas. This sale will continue to each designated address location listed below after the completion of the beginning sale. This sale is being held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. Everything sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. U-STORE-IT reserves the right to set a minimum bid, refuse any bid, or to cancel any Public Sale that is advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials related to the sale.

U-Store-It #751

610 E. Stassney Lane

Austin, TX 78745

512-441-8300

Lisa Ross, unit 3110 - boxes, crates, clothes basket, paintings, shelves, tote bag, painting statue.

Syed Shaw, unit 1229 - boxes, cabinets, lights, bulbs, exit signs, counter with sink.

U-Store-It #753

10025 Manchaca Rd

Austin, TX. 78748

512-292-1760

TSC Corp / William Walsh, Unit 110 - doors, lighting fixtures, shelves, plastic, metal, chairs.

AUCTIONEER: KENNETH HIERHOLZER 6568

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, **Stor-A-Way**, located at **309 S. Bell Blvd., Cedar Park, TX 78613**, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will begin at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2011**. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and clean up may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.

#P020 James Robertson
1995 Tracvo Dodge Motor home

#C056 Israel Alvarez 2007
Flat Bed Trailer

#P077 Keith A Robinson
1999 Fishmaster Boat/Trailer/ Motor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS Orangeco, Inc. hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 26th of January 2011 on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**

Wednesday January 26th, 2011 9:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 1033 E 41st Street, Austin, TX 78751

1091 - Walker, Perry Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

2009 - LEWIS, ANGELA Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

2010 - Lee, Minnie Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

2020 - Gildon, Tracy Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

2053 - Atwood, Kathleen Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

Books / Files / Cabinets; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

3184 - Smith, Cassandra Monique Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Toys

4085 - Urdy, Kathy Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

5133 - Conaway, Stephanie Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

9:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 10001 N. I-H 35 Austin, TX 78753

1028 - Jackson, Cassandra Boxes/Bags/Totes

1062 - Garcia, SanJuanita Tools

2049 - Escobar, Antulio Books / Files / Cabinets; Tools

2050 - Cook, Ruby Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

2069 - SALADINO, CARA Boxes/Bags/Totes

2088 - Wilson, James Bedding / Clothing; Tools

3023 - Balderas Luna, Marina Furniture

3063 - Sierra, Andrewnetta Appliances; Furniture

3078 - Maldonado, Rafael Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools

5013 - Hughes, Dale Boxes/ Bags/Totes

5060 - Contreras, Hector Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools

5067 - Odem, Joel Bedding / Clothing

7019 - Tello, Sara Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

8047 - Sneed, Stephanie D. Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

10:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 10100 North I-H 35 Austin, TX 78753

B065 - walker, spencer Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

D056 - Whitfield, Rachel Boxes / Bags / Totes

D109 - QUIJADA, CARLOS Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

D132 - aday, Jessie Furniture

E067 - Cruz, Julia Furniture; Tools

H012 - Clemons, Emma Furniture; Tools

10:30 a.m. Public Storage@ 937 Reiniil St. Austin, TX 78753

237 - Ramirez, Johan Otilio Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

302 - Brandenburg, Darryl Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

304 - Rosales, Christina Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

332 - Harris, Susan Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

423 - Gibson, John Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

623 - scott, michael Bedding / Clothing; Furniture

753 - Hunter, Harry Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

767 - Morris, Lorraine Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

787 - Spivey, Billy Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes;

Furniture

797 - Pullam, Jacqueline Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

11:00 a.m. Public Storage@ 8101 North Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78753

103 - Chavez, Sandra Boxes / Bags / Totes

1056 - Marla Henderson Design Group Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

1059 - Marla Henderson Design Group Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

1111 - Jackson, Joseph Boxes / Bags / Totes; Tools

1416 - McCracken, Hailey Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

1433 - renteria, Richard Boxes, Bags, Totes

1454 - Brooks, Annette Appliances; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

246 - Fontenot, Julian Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers; Tools

307 - Johnson, mellissa Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

3144 - Clement, Virgie Bedding / Clothing

323 - scott, tammie Boxes/ Bags/Totes

401 - Hernandez-Urbina, Melvin Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture

449 - Kennedy, Tamara Furniture

534 - Miller, Nyesha Boxes / Bags / Totes; Electronics / Computers

647 - Luna, Annette G. Boxes / Bags / Totes; Clothing; Electronics / Computers; Furniture

N1366 - Lopez, Amy Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes

N3341 - Haas, Ryan Bedding / Clothing; Tools

12:00 p.m. Public Storage@ 8525 North Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78753

B030 - Bustamante, Ricardo Bedding / Clothing; Tools

B066 - CHEEK, SANDY Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

C064 - DANIELS, CASSANDRA Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Toys

D028 - Petty, Stuart Boxes/ Bags/Totes

E032 - HUERTA, MARY Bedding / Clothing; Boxes / Bags / Totes; Furniture; Tools

ENA MACIAS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Magdalena Macias, Deceased, were issued on January 4, 2011, in Cause No.C-1-PB-10-001783, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Martha Rodriguez

All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Martha Rodriguez, Executor
Estate of Magdalena Macias
c/o Martha Rodriguez

5016 Canella Drive
Austin, TX 78744

Dated: January 10, 2011

By: Martha Rodriguez, Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST

THE ESTATE OF KAREN KAY REYNOLDS, DE- CEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of KAREN KAY REYNOLDS, Deceased, were issued on December 16, 2010

in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-000420, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: JAMES C. REYNOLDS as Independent Executor. The Residence of the Independent Executor is Austin, Travis County, Texas. The post office address is: Estate of KAREN KAY REYNOLDS

1604 Sage Hollow Circle

Austin, Texas 78758

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST

THE ESTATE OF JEAN LONG MORRIS, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JEAN LONG MORRIS, Deceased, were issued on January 6, 2011, in Cause No. C-1-PB-10-002047 pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: LESLIE A. MORRIS, Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is in Thibodaux, Louisiana. The post office address is:

Estate of JEAN LONG

MORRIS

LAW OFFICE OF DIANE

HEBNER

507 West 7th Street

Austin, TX 78701-2831

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED January 6, 2011.

Law Office of Diane Hebner

507 West 7th Street

Austin, TX 78701-2831

(512) 477-4158 Telephone

(512) 477-2126 Fax

By: /s/ DIANE HEBNER

Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No.: 09367300

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